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AND

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DEATHS.

At Shanghai, suddenly, on the 1st July, Mr. WILHELM BOESE, aged 27 years.
At Kingsclere, Caine Road, on Saturday morning, at 12.10, from plague, DAVID, the dearly beloved son of Emanuel and Sophie BELLIOS, aged 16 years. Deeply regretted.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 20th June arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 12th July (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Ozorio, the Caine Road murderer, was hanged in Victoria Gaol on the 11th July.

Mr. Pritchard-Morgan, M.P., left Shanghai for the north again on the 3rd July.

M. Marty has arranged his dispute with the Shanghai Taotai on the basis of the latter paying one-half the claim.

The inconvenience experienced in Hongkong owing to the scarcity of bank notes is having a very prejudicial effect on trade.

It is not impossible that Tsai Taotai will be appointed Chinese Minister to Washington in succession to H.E. Wu Ting-fang or Ng Choy.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The new Shanghai Municipal loan, amounting to Tls. 300,000, has been entirely applied for, the average price being slightly above par.

The *Echo de Chine* reports that M. Pichou, French Minister at Peking, who was suffering from small-pox, is out of danger and is making satisfactory progress.

Colonel Lewes, R.E., Major Penrose, R.E., and Capt. Harrison, R.E., were passengers per steamer *Kweiyang* for Tientsin, en route to Weihaiwei on 13th July.

It is reported from Peking, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that the Emperor has given his consent to the request of Korea to be allowed to establish a legation at Peking.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung, the Hukuang Viceroy, has sent 50 picked men from his bodyguard to Japan to be trained there. After three years the men are to come back, be appointed sergeants, and set to work to drill and discipline their less fortunate comrades.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The South-China Technical Mission (French), consisting of Messrs. Wiart, Petit, Feer, and Collin, who left Hanoi on the 10th January, have arrived at Shanghai. They came on foot from Hanoi to Changsha, through Kwangsi and Hunan. The *Echo de Chine* says they are not allowed to tell what they have seen.

A circular dispatch from the Tsungli Yamen is promulgated to the various Customs Taotais of the provinces informing them that from henceforth native opium is to pay only Tls. 60 per chest duty on reaching its place of destination, and that no other duties are to be levied beyond the Tls. 60. This regulation is to be perpetual.

Mr. Liang Chi-ts'ao, a native of Canton, an M.A. in literary rank and chief editor of the well-known vernacular weekly magazine *Chinese Progress* published at Shanghai, has been appointed by a special Imperial edict of the 3rd instant to be Director of the Translating Bureau—one of the two Reform Clubs at Peking—and is also given the brevet button of the 6th rank.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A native despatch from Chungking reports that the high provincial authorities of Szechuen have lately issued proclamations notifying the people that in accordance with the Treaty of Shimoloseki, the British steamer *Leechuen*, belonging to Mr. Archibald Little, has received permission to steam into the inland waters of the province of Szechuen with privilege to tow cargo junks within said waters, and calling upon all local authorities wherever the *Leechuen* may be to give full and efficient protection to the little steamer, her crew, and any junks she may be towing at the moment.—*N. C. Daily News*.

According to our native correspondent at Peking, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress Dowager expect to visit Tientsin on the 17th of October next, by which time it is expected that the two first-class partially-armoured Armstrong cruisers *Haicheng* and *Haichi*, the three German-built second-class protected cruisers, *Haiyung*, *Haichên*, and *Haishêng*, and the four large sea-going torpedo boats, *Hailung*, *Haihu*, *Hainiao*, and *Haiching*, also built in Germany, will have arrived so as to enable Their Majesties to review them, after inspecting the disciplined land forces of Chihli at Haikuangszu, or what is termed the Western Arsenal.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says:—Our Paris correspondent informs us that the currency question is being considered in high quarters and that the necessity of arriving at a decision is recognised. The establishment of the gold standard is spoken of with the French five-franc piece as the circulating medium this coin to be for Indo-China what the rupee is for India, and to have a fixed value with regard to the franc of say f. 2.50, the introduction and circulation of Mexican dollars to be forbidden.

According to the latest advices received from Manila the city, though entirely at the mercy of Admiral Dewey had not been taken. The action of the German fleet was causing much comment and apparently a good deal of irritation to the Americans. It is said they send their boats round the Bay after dark, in defiance of the regulations, and the other day the *Irene* ventured to interfere with the Insurgents when the latter were about to attack Grande Island, in Subig Bay, warning them off. On this being reported to Admiral Dewey he promptly sent the *Raleigh* and *Concord* to take the island, which was done, the German vessel leaving the place immediately the Americans made their appearance.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that an understanding has been arrived at by Japan with the Austro-Hungarian Government, and that there is no longer any obstacle in the way of putting the Revised Treaties into operation. This being the case, it is said the necessary notice will be given to the Powers on the 17th July of the intention of the Government to put the new Treaties into force from 17th July, 1899. The *Nichi Nichi* adds that the new Tariff will become effective from October 1st. As to that, the *Japan Mail* believes the Tokyo journal to be in error. The most trustworthy information at present available is to the effect that the Tariff will not go into operation before next year, and the date ultimately fixed will probably be the commencement of the fiscal year 1899-1900.

The rising in Kwangsi has assumed serious proportions and for a time panic prevailed at Wuchow. The affair seems to have originated in the purchase of rice by Canton merchants, or that was made the pretext. On the 2nd July the people in a number of villages objected to this traffic and the Canton merchants fled to the city of Yung-hsien, where they owned most of the principal shops. The rebels attacked the city and sacked it, and then, their numbers increasing, they proceeded of the city of Lûk-chuen-hsien, which was also sacked. After this they divided themselves into separate bands with the intention of over-running the province in different directions. Troops, however, were sent against them and they were forced to retire westward, a great number of them being killed. It is said that as many as one thousand bodies floating down the river have been picked up and buried by a charitable institution at Wuchow. On their westward retreat the rebels continued to sack the towns they passed through, and it is said that Tung-yuan, Paklow, Peilin, Luohuan, and Hengyi have been so dealt with. About fifteen hundred troops have passed through Wuchow from Canton, Kweilin, and Ho Yuen. The rebels are practically unarmed. Rumours have been in circulation to the effect that France has offered to intervene for the restoration of order.

ANTI-FOREIGN OUTRAGES AND GREAT BRITAIN'S POLICY TOWARDS CHINA.

The renewed outbreak of anti-foreign riots in Szechuen, following upon the murder of French missionaries in Kwangsi, is specially regrettable at the present time, when the foreign relations of China are in such a precarious condition. The murder of two German missionaries the other day formed the pretext for the seizure of Kiaochau and the establishment of German influence in Shantung, and if the nations whose subjects have suffered in person or property in the Szechuen riots choose to demand material satisfaction on German lines we would be disposed to say small blame to them, though awkward complications may arise if they begin to tread on each other's corns when arranging terms. Those who talk so glibly about preserving the integrity of China may not unfairly be called upon to explain how the integrity of the country can possibly be preserved under an effete, corrupt, missionary-murdering Government like that of Peking. Is Great Britain to make herself *particeps criminis* by defending the Peking Government against the just consequences of its wrong-doing or neglect? Is she to fail in exacting satisfaction for outrages committed upon her own subjects? The universal feeling amongst Britishers in China, so far as we have been able to gauge it, is that a great mistake was made in not exacting exemplary satisfaction after the Kucheng massacre, and a repetition of the mistake should be avoided. As both Protestant and Roman Catholic missions have suffered in the Szechuen riots it is to be presumed British interests will again be affected, and if so it is to be hoped the outrages will not be condoned. But if we ourselves are entitled to exact reparation for injury to our interests we must concede the same right to others whose interests are similarly affected, unless, indeed, the British Government is prepared to establish an effective protectorate over China, to assume responsibility for the administration, and, in short, to do for China what she has done for Egypt. That would be rather a "large order," but it would be a policy worth fighting for if opposition were offered. "Is the trade of China worth fighting for?" was the absurd question asked the other day by the *N. C. Daily News* at the opening and the close of a leading article. One thing is quite certain, and that is that the Government of China as it exists at present is not worth fighting for. No Government could possibly be worse, whether from a humanitarian or commercial point of view, and in upholding it Great Britain is doing more to close the door to trade than to open it. If provinces in the North pass under the sway of Russia or Germany, or in the South under the sway of France, British trade with them will increase tenfold more rapidly than it would if the same provinces remained under exclusively Chinese rule. It would be more satisfactory to preserve China as a political entity under British protection and control with a civil and military service sufficient to guarantee honest administration and the preservation of order; but if Great Britain is not prepared to assume that responsibility she will not do much good by opposing the designs of other Powers. When Mr. CHAMBERLAIN the other day quoted the proverb "Who supps with the devil must have a long spoon" he would have done much better to have applied it to China than to Russia. If Great Britain is to sup with China as represented by the

existing Government she will want a long spoon indeed, if only to keep murdered missionaries out of the soup.

THE CAUSE OF ANTI-FOREIGN RIOTS.

Last year Mr. G. J. L. LITTON, of the Consular Service, made a journey to North Szechuen, and his report thereupon has recently been presented to Parliament. Some remarks he makes upon the attitude of the populace towards foreigners are of special interest at present, in view of the recent anti-foreign riots. Referring to the rumours that foreigners kidnap and devour children, Mr. LITTON says he firmly believes that these rumours are set about chiefly by yamen underlings. "The majority of the people have a large fund of common sense, but they are impulsive, ignorant, and accept almost any tale that comes from official sources, and so such rumours get about. It is quite certain, as several recent cases have proved, that a good official can extinguish these rumours immediately, if he has a mind to." Mr. LITTON himself during more than two months' travel was only insulted by natives twice, and on both occasions by yamen underlings; the people of all classes he found to be particularly friendly. Having given an instance in which the propagator of false rumours was held responsible, with the effect that the rumours died out immediately and were not renewed, Mr. LITTON goes on to say:—"The strict orders given by ex-Viceroy LU are undoubtedly the cause of the present state of affairs; cases like the above convince me that among a people so mild and friendly no riots can ever take place except at the direct instigation of the officials. At present many of the local officials, taking their cue from their chief, go so far as to pay visits to missionaries, invite them to dinner, etc. All the officials that I saw repeatedly told me that they were very afraid of any trouble with foreigners on account of the Viceroy's anger, which they would be certain to incur. LU gave his personal attention to the protection of foreigners. On one occasion some soldiers amused themselves by firing blank cartridges into a missionary compound at Chengtu, the Viceroy heard of it, and all soldiers were forbidden even to enter the street on which the compound was situated, though it was the direct road to the parade ground. It is not necessary to speculate whether LU's policy was directed by his own sympathies, his predecessor's fate, or the recollection of the heavy indemnity paid to the Missions Etrangères, but it is to be hoped that his successor will follow in his steps." Of the precise circumstances attending the recent riots we are still in ignorance, but when the detailed reports are received it will be found, there can be little doubt, that the officials are directly responsible for the occurrences, for, as Mr. LITTON observes, no riots can ever take place except at the direct instigation of the officials; or, if that be thought rather too sweeping a statement, it is at least certain that no anti-foreign riot takes place, either in Szechuen or elsewhere in China, but might be prevented by the officials if they chose to take proper precautions. Where there is not active instigation on the part of the officials there is tacit connivance or indifference. It is the Peking Government that is at the bottom of the whole bad business, and until either Great Britain alone or the Foreign

Powers combined insist upon a root and branch reform of the civil and military services of China anti-foreign outrages will continue to take place from time to time.

THE SAMSHUI CONSULAR REPORT.

Mr. Consul H. F. BRADY has written an interesting report on the trade of Samshui and Kongken for the period from 4th June, 1897, the date of the opening of the port, to 31st December. He prefaces his report by a few remarks descriptive of the district generally. The ports may be said to be at the apex of the delta formed by the Canton and West Rivers, a district which is remarkable for the richness of its soil and the variety and abundance of its products, as well as for the density of its population. Westwards the Sikiang and its innumerable tributaries give access to the provinces of Yunnan, Kweichow, Kwangsi, and the whole of the western portions of Kwangtung, while northwards the Pikiang, or North River, opens up to trade the large expanse of country lying south of the chain of mountains which separates Kwangtung from Hunan and Kiangsi. This vast undeveloped area, Mr. BRADY continues, "has now been brought within the reach of foreign markets, and Samshui, from being a city of little account, bids fair to become one of great importance at no distant date. Hitherto it has taken no part in the trade of the province, and, indeed, as a local market for foreign produce, it may be doubted whether it will ever play a very conspicuous rôle; but as a treaty port it only needs careful fostering to become an important centre of distribution. Merchandise can now be laid down here direct from Hongkong on payment of import duty according to tariff, and it is no longer obliged to submit to the exactions imposed upon it by its introduction via Canton, which has hitherto been the case. Once in the port and covered by transit pass it can proceed without fear on its way into the interior, and this measure of relief should lead to a great expansion of the trade, provided, as has been said, it is not strangled by the imposition of burdensome taxes and the syndicate system to which the provincial Government is so partial." This latter is a point that cannot be insisted upon too often or too strongly, as is illustrated by what happened in the kerosine trade. During the first few months after the opening of Samshui, Mr. BRADY says, kerosine oil had a free field, owing to the fact that by importing direct from Hongkong, the dealers escaped the levy of the tax of 30 cents per case charged by the chi-yi-tang or syndicate who farmed the right to collect the tsoli or terminal tax on all oil consumed in the province. Nearly 85,000 gallons were consequently imported during that period, but early in December the farmers established a station at Hokow and also started running launches to patrol the river in search of uncertificated oil, and from that date up to the date of Mr. BRADY's report only 800 cases had been brought in. The merchants, Mr. BRADY says, "now realise that it is wiser to bow to the inevitable, and they procure their supplies from Canton, where the tax has already been paid upon it. In this way they are able to lay it down cheaper than if they brought it in direct from Hongkong and had to pay the lekin and tsoli on arrival." If illegal levies of this sort are to be swept away it can only be by incessant vigilance and insistence on the observance of treaty rights, and for

that we must look to our Consuls and Minister. But merchants themselves must be on the alert to put their rights to the test and bring infringements to the notice of the proper authorities. If they are content to do business through Chinese who are themselves directly or indirectly interested in the farming of squeeze levies they cannot expect to see a very great or rapid expansion of trade. Mr. BOURNE in his recent report on the trade of South China drew attention to the desirability of the European employés of foreign firms acquiring a knowledge of the Chinese language, so as to render the firms independent of the compradores in their transactions with native clients and customers. Mr. BRADY, in the report now before us, though he does not specially refer to the language question, says that what is wanted at Samshui "is the presence of foreign merchants or agents, and until their advent it is to be feared development will be slow." In closing our notice of an exceptionally interesting and useful report we must quote Mr. BRADY's remarks on a subject which is now attracting special attention, namely, the rules of inland navigation. After noting that only certain channels are open to foreign craft, Mr. BRADY says:—"Chinese steamers are not restricted like foreign vessels. They may take any channel that has a sufficient depth of water and suits their purpose, and they may take up and set down passengers and merchandise anywhere along their route, so that they enjoy a great advantage over foreign owned craft, and, consequently, get most if not all of the passenger traffic between this port and Canton." In the revision of the recently promulgated rules for inland navigation it is to be hoped that all inequalities will be swept away and foreign owned craft accorded precisely the same privileges as Chinese, which was the declared intention when the concession was made.

THE POLICY OF ALLIANCES.

The now famous speech made by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN at Birmingham seems, says a recently issued statement by the Navy League, to have brought to birth a thought previously latent in many minds, namely, that the changing circumstances of the world have created conditions rendering necessary a return to the old policy pursued by our forefathers of definitely allying ourselves with our friends against our foes. This passage strikes us as exhibiting a singularly confused state of mind. The thought of alliances cannot be said to have been brought to birth by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's speech, for it has never been absent. In any great war of the future Great Britain would be glad, as she has been in the past, to avail herself of the alliance of any Power whose interests lay in the same direction as her own. But before entering into alliances it would be necessary to distinguish who are our friends and who our foes. At present we are happily at peace with all the world. The thought brought to birth by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's speech was that of making an enemy of Russia; and that can hardly be said to have been brought to birth either, for a large proportion of Englishmen entertain and have entertained almost from time immemorial a violent race hatred towards that country. It was this race hatred as much as consideration for the material interests involved that was at the root of the recent excitement in connection with Russia's action in China. We may sooner or later become involved in a war with Russia, or with any other country, and, if

so, alliances will be welcome, but they will have to be determined by the particular conditions prevailing at the time. Where there is consanguinity of race, as between Great Britain and America, an alliance if formed would offer some prospect of durability—it would be rather a unification of race than an alliance in the ordinary sense—but as between nations not bound by such ties alliances must necessarily be ephemeral. One of the countries with which it is suggested an alliance should be formed is Japan. But we could not look for any greater constancy from Japan than England herself has displayed towards her allies, and on this point the statement of the Navy League is suggestively instructive. We are reminded that in the days of HENRY VIII. England allied herself first with one and then another of the two great contending rivals of the time—now with FRANCIS I. against CHARLES V., and now with CHARLES V. against FRANCIS I. Later, to meet the varying exigencies of the age, we find England allied in the reign of CHARLES II. with France against Holland, while a little later, in the time of WILLIAM III., the situation is reversed, and Holland and England in close alliance are desperately contending against the mighty power of France. Such being our own history it would give small cause for surprise to find Japan allied alternately with England and with Russia should a series of armed conflicts in the Far East take place. England's true path of safety lies in the cultivation of a sturdy independence and the maintenance of a sufficient navy to ensure us the command of the sea, at the same time not going out of our way to pick quarrels unnecessarily either with Russia or any other Power. When the conflict comes, if come it must, we are not likely to be left without support, but not knowing against whom we are to fight, or for what, it seems premature to go crying round the world for allies.

SIR WILLIAM DES VŒUX ON THE CHINA QUESTION.

We are glad to see one of our former Governors using his undoubted abilities in the promotion of British interests in the Far East. Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX has evidently improved greatly in health during the last few years, for we find him engaged in public matters and he has come prominently forward during the recent crisis of affairs at Peking. He has, moreover, assumed the presidency of the China Association, which is a powerful institution capable of materially influencing the policy of the British Imperial Government in the East. Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX evidently does not intend to allow the grass to grow under his feet. Not only is he militant as the Chairman of the Association, but he makes frequent appearances in the Press. His latest effort, in the form of an article in the *Contemporary Review* for June, is entitled "Our Policy in the Far East." Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX, on this subject, unhesitatingly joins the ranks of the critics of the Government, and though he does not go nearly so far as most of the latter, he thinks the Government has made mistakes. He says:—"I am not one to minimise the exceeding difficulty of the situation which we have had to face, and I can even recognise the possibility that the Russian acquisition of Port Arthur could not have been avoided without war with two, perhaps even three, Great Powers. But what does not admit of doubt is that we have brought upon ourselves unnecessary humiliation by making futile objections

"and by giving explanations unworthy of our dignity and lowering to our prestige. The concessions from China which have been used to cover these defects are by no means an adequate counterpoise, and, unless there should be a marked change in our attitude, will for the most part prove eventually worthless."

The concessions gained from China are not only not viewed with much satisfaction by Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX, but he contends that some of them are no concessions at all. For instance the pledge on the part of the Chinese Government not to alienate the Yangtze Valley was, in his view, no concession, because China could have no desire to part with it, and as her power is inadequate to insure "the validity of her promise, our acceptance of it implies an undertaking to assist in the defence of the territory in question; so that, in fact, any concession in the matter was on our part." Sir WILLIAM thinks, too, that this so-called concession seems to imply comparative indifference on the part of Great Britain to other portions of the Central Kingdom, notably in Kwangtung, where her interests are only less important than in the Yangtze Valley. He thinks this demand led to the French demand in connection with the southern provinces. The pledge exacted from China that Sir ROBERT HART's successor at the "seat of Customs" shall be a British subject is in Sir WILLIAM's opinion only worth the paper on which it is written, for it will not necessarily preclude Russia or France from demanding the right to fill the vacancy whenever it occurs, when we should be in practically the same position as though the pledge had never been given. The occupation of Weihaiwei is regarded by Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX as a useless irritation to Russia and a source of expense to ourselves, and he indulges in the hope that the Government may be induced to leave the port as it is and "to expend upon it neither men nor millions." He thinks it was only acquired by our Government at the eleventh hour to "save face." Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX allows that the opening of waterways and new ports will no doubt prove of substantial value for a time, "if we assume a more determined attitude than in the past towards local obstruction." Though our readers will probably differ from our old Governor in some of the foregoing conclusions they will be prepared to endorse the last quoted remark. As he truly says:—"If we remain passive benefit from them in no long time will disappear. It is of little use opening the waterways and the interior to foreign trade if the local officials are to be allowed to levy what squeezes they choose, under the name of *lekin* or *tsu-li*, upon the goods imported. Nor can British traders find much opportunity to develop the trade in produce if every obstruction be thrown in the way by the mandarins and the Consuls require documentary proof of every case before intervening on behalf of the trader." Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX is undoubtedly pessimistic, and he may perhaps be somewhat harsh in his criticisms of the Salisbury Government, but he hits the right nail on the head in the following sentences:—"What, however, is most immediately required for our interests is Government support to British enterprise. Possibly, by an amicable agreement with Russia, and by putting an end to our policy of useless irritation, we might induce her to cease from her constant opposition. But whether such an arrangement would be practicable or not, the utmost encouragement and support should be afforded to

"such enterprise, as being not less for the best interests of China than for our own. Already various concessions have been obtained by British subjects for the building of railroads and the working of mines. The Chinese Government should be made clearly to understand that such rights cannot in future be ignored with greater impunity than if they belonged to Russians, Germans, or Frenchmen; and that it will be held responsible for obstruction or outrage whether arising spontaneously from popular superstition or from the incitement of local Mandarins. Our policy of leaving private interests to take care of themselves must be abandoned. Other Governments give a strenuous support to the enterprise of their subjects, and we must do the same, or we shall very quickly find ourselves in the position of mere spectators with reference to the coming development of China." Considering the magnitude of our present interests and the enormous possibilities in the future, if China is to be opened up by railways through her length and breadth, if her mineral resources be properly exploited, and if industries be developed in her commercial centres, the stake is worth playing boldly for, and we trust that there will in the future be no half-heartedness in the conduct of relations with the Tsung-li Yamen. It is merely throwing pearls before swine to waste words on officials of the type of LI HUNG-CHANG. The British Government should always know what it wants, and let its representative have a free hand in carrying out its instructions.

CHEQUES AS A RELIEF FOR THE SCARCITY OF BANK NOTES.

Some little relief from the existing scarcity of bank notes might possibly be found in the more extensive use of cheques drawn for smaller amounts than that now generally recognised as the minimum allowed by the Banks, namely, ten dollars. As a matter of fact cheques are frequently drawn for smaller amounts, but their acceptance by the Banks is a favour upon which the public does not venture to presume too far. Some few years ago a similar state of affairs prevailed in Ceylon to that now existing in this colony and an agitation was set on foot for the reduction of the minimum cheque amount from ten rupees to five. The Banks complied with the wishes of the public in the matter, and the increased convenience was, as far as we were able to gather from the local newspapers at the time, much appreciated. Payment by cheque is, of course, attended by some extra expense, on account of the stamp duty, which would operate against its being very largely adopted as a substitute for notes of small denomination. To pay away \$1,000 in cheques of five dollars each, for instance, would cost \$4, whereas bank notes, when the supply is equal to the demand, can be obtained without the payment of any premium, the duty of one per cent. per annum being paid by the Banks, which find the business a profitable one, as they are only compelled to keep a reserve in specie of one third of the value of the notes in circulation and can use the other two thirds in their business, realising upon it probably six per cent. or more. Still, although cheques cost the public more than bank notes, they are a great convenience, and if the Banks would give their sanction to the reduction of the recognised minimum for which they may be drawn to five dollars no doubt they would be more extensively used than they now are in payment of small accounts.

The increased use of cheques, however, would only be a palliative, not a cure, for the existing inconvenience. Cheques will not pass from hand to hand like notes or swell the volume of currency to any very considerable amount. It follows, therefore, that we must have either an increased note issue by the Banks or a Government note issue, and, for reasons explained in a previous article, the latter would be the preferable. An instance illustrating the inconvenience of the existing state of things has been mentioned to us. After the arrival of the last American mail some Chinese merchants took their bills to the Banks to sell and they were offered payment in British dollars. This did not suit the merchants, who wanted notes which they could pay away in the course of their business, arguing very reasonably that when they wanted to make payments they could not do it conveniently by means of sycee in boxes. Ultimately they were accommodated, but not without a great deal of trouble. The non-expansive character of the present note issue is becoming a serious hindrance to trade, and the subject is one that ought to be taken up by the Government without delay.

BRITISH TRADE AND THE COST OF CARRIAGE.

Mr. LAY, Assistant Japanese Secretary to Her Majesty's Legation at Tokyo, in his report on the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1897 draws attention to some points in which the British merchant and manufacturer are placed at a disadvantage in competing with their rivals. The cost of carriage is a material item in determining the price at which goods can be placed upon the market, and in this respect the Britisher is heavily handicapped. The Shipping Conference Mr. LAY regards almost with approval, for he says its power has not been abused and rates have been maintained at a reasonable level. He points out, however, that the general tendency of the Conference is to stimulate foreign shipping as against British, and also that "so strong and extensive is the influence of the Conference in Great Britain that no outside steamer can obtain a cargo, even in spite of the fact that freights on iron from Great Britain are often 5s. per ton higher than from Antwerp, and from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per ton higher than from Hamburg. It might be well," he adds, "for those who are seeking the causes of the decline in British trade to direct their attention to this serious difference." The existence of such a difference seems hardly consistent with Mr. LAY's opinion that the power of the Conference has not been abused. But the British merchant or manufacturer has not only to pay more than his rivals for water carriage, but is also placed at a great disadvantage in the matter of railway facilities. Owing to the co-operation between railways and steamers in the United States iron, Mr. LAY says, can be shipped from the Eastern States to the Pacific coast and thence by steamer to Japan at rates averaging about 35s. for the whole journey, "whereas rail from Glasgow to London would cost 30s. per ton alone, and the freight to Japan would be at least 32s. 6d. per ton, a total of 62s. 6d. per ton. Besides which the American maker delivers the goods to the carrier at his own door and obtains a through bill of lading at once, whereas the Glasgow shipper would have to deal first with the railway company and then with the steamship company, and probably

"pay dock dues, etc., besides." On the Continent of Europe also there is co-operation between railway and shipping companies, which takes the form of a through rate of freight from the manufactory in the interior to the destination abroad. From this it follows, says Mr. LAY, that "even if the Shipping Conference succeeds, in obedience to the agitation now going on in England, in increasing rates from the Continent to the same level as those from England the British trade will still be at a disadvantage, because the Continental shipping company will be still able to arrange with the railway company to receive a corresponding rebate on its share of the journey. In England, where the railways and steamship companies work independently no such arrangement can be made."

SCARCITY OF MONEY AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

When it is urged that the introduction of the gold standard in Hongkong would be followed by a large influx of much needed capital the reply is sometimes made that no such influx has taken place in Japan, although the change of standard was made there chiefly for the purpose of attracting it. Foreign capital will not come to Hongkong, because the investor has an uneasy feeling that when he wishes to withdraw it he may receive only ten or fifteen shillings for every sovereign invested. In Japan he incurs no danger of loss by exchange, but there are other conditions which make capitalists diffident about investing there, namely, uncertainty as to the security and as to the commercial law of the country and its administration. Japan, therefore, cannot be taken as affording any indication of what the results of introducing a gold standard in Hongkong would be. The question of introducing foreign capital into Japan has recently been under the consideration of the foreign and native Chambers of Commerce. The Hiogo Chamber (foreign) has insisted that the offer of trustworthy security, such as the ownership of land, is an indispensable preliminary to the introduction of foreign capital. The *Hiogo News* says there is certainly a growing recognition of this fact among Japanese business men, and the absurd restrictions now imposed must before long give way before the force of circumstances. If that be so, and the restrictions are removed, Japan will soon be placed in possession of an abundance of capital for the development of her resources.

THE INLAND NAVIGATION REGULATIONS.

In our leader of the 2nd inst. we dealt with the question of the opening of inland waters and Mr. CURSON's statement, as telegraphed by Reuter, that the British Government will insist upon the Chinese Government revising the Regulations. On the 5th inst. we gave the Regulations as published in the Shanghai papers. It is evident that our Shanghai contemporaries have published the rules as issued to the various Commissioners of Customs, and we are now in a position to inform our readers that these are by no means in accordance with the Minister's views on the subject. Why and how these came to be issued without having first received his sanction we will not stop here to enquire, but pass on to the amendments which he has presented to the Yamen and which we hope shortly to see become law, as Mr. CURSON's speech seems

to indicate they are to be insisted on. It will be readily conceded that with negotiations still pending it is advisable to maintain a certain reserve, but when we say that for the term "Treaty Port Provinces" is to be substituted "The Empire of China"; that the word "small" having reference to steamers is to be erased, and that the definition of "inland" is to be as given in the Chefoo Convention; that under the head of Revenue cargo shipped at a treaty port shall pay duty in accordance with treaty stipulations instead of "as the Customs decide to be leviable"; and, referring to cargo landed and shipped inland paying the duties the local regulations call for, the words "which local regulations shall be issued through the Customs" are to be added—with these alterations and additions we think our readers will be convinced that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD is determined to put up with no evasions or attempted evasions of the concessions granted to Great Britain.

We are of course unable to say how many of the Minister's amendments will be accepted; that depends on the amount of pressure brought to bear; but it is at least satisfactory to know that the large interests concerned are not being lightly passed over; nor can we think that the most vital point in the whole question—namely, the imposing of an equal tariff on all goods, to the importance of which in its relation to the laying down cost of British goods we drew attention in our leader of the 30th April—will be so treated when the local regulations, to be issued through the Customs, are drawn up. Leken is by no means so large in amount or so variable in quantity as is commonly supposed; published tariffs can be obtained and these should be made the basis of the "local regulations" referred to above. The error into which we have hitherto fallen is in lumping all taxation together and classing it under the head of lekin, then when a protest was made by the foreign merchant that his goods had been subjected to an illegal levy of lekin the reply invariably came that it was not lekin, it was "tsoli," and so on *ad infinitum*. To avoid this the Chinese Government must be called upon to furnish a list of the tax stations and a tariff of the amount of tax leviable on all goods at such stations throughout China, commencing with the great waterways; these must be compared with the tariffs already published and any attempt at increasing either the number of stations or the amount of the taxes vigorously opposed. These are the first steps to be taken in a scheme of internal reform, which great task, as it seems, but needs firmness on the part of the authorities and forbearance and vigilance on the part of the merchants to bring to a successful issue.

SUPREME COURT.

14th July.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

CLAIM BY A SHIP'S CREW.

Eugenio Operrano and others sought to recover from the owners of the *Isidoro Pons* the sum of \$5,000—wages, maintenance, and passage to Manila.

Mr. Pollock, barrister (instructed by Mr. D'Almado) appeared for plaintiffs and Mr. Francis, Q.C., (instructed by Mr. Looker) for defendants.

A preliminary objection by Mr. Pollock having been overruled.

Mr. Francis applied for an adjournment and for leave to file notice of motion to dismiss the suit.

The application was granted, the case being adjourned *sine die*.

THE NAVY LEAGUE AND THE JURISDICTION OVER KOWLOON CITY.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, the Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League, writes us as follows:—I beg leave to inform you that the Committee of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League despatched yesterday (Monday) a telegram to the Head Office of the Navy League to the effect that Kowloon City must be included in the lease from China to Great Britain.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

RIO GRANDE ISLAND CAPTURED.

EXTRAORDINARY CONDUCT OF A GERMAN CRUISER.

THE HEALTH OF THE AMERICAN TROOPS.

Hongkong, 14th June.

Despatches brought from Manila by H.M.S. *Plover*, which arrived in the harbour yesterday morning, state that the action of the Germans in Manila Bay is causing much anxiety there. They have not been careful as to the observance of naval courtesies required by the situation. Hence a feeling of irritation has been engendered. They cause much annoyance by insisting upon sending their boats round the Bay after dark in direct contravention of the regulations. But the most extraordinary story of all is that which is told in connection with the capture of the island of Rio Grande, at the entrance of Subig Bay. It seems that on the mainland the rebels had succeeded in capturing village after village until at last the Spaniards were obliged to take refuge on the island. The rebels, having previously captured the Spanish steamer *Philippines*, on Wednesday last made preparations for attacking the island. The German cruiser *Irene*, which was in the Bay, interfered, however, threatening to protect the Spaniards if the insurgents opened fire. Upon this the *Philippines* proceeded to Manila Bay and the incident was reported to Aguinaldo, who at once informed Admiral Dewey. Early on Thursday morning Captain Coghlan was ordered to Subig Bay with the *Raleigh* and the *Concord*, his instructions being to capture the island and hand it and the prisoners taken over to the rebels. As soon as the American ships made their appearance the *Irene* got under weigh and left for Manila. During a parley the Spaniards expressed their willingness to surrender if the Americans would take charge of them and not hand them over to the insurgents, and Captain Coghlan sent the *Concord* to Manila Bay for further instructions. Admiral Dewey's reply was "Obey your orders," whereupon the Spaniards were informed that their request could not be complied with and they were summoned to surrender. At first they refused, but a few shells, one of which struck the Spanish Commander's house, brought up the white flag. The prisoners—40 soldiers with arms, 100 sick, and 100 women—were handed over to the insurgents. Four hundred thousand rounds of ammunition which was captured was taken on board one of the American vessels.

Aguinaldo states that both the Spaniards and the Germans have made overtures to him. He is, however, silent as to their import. Alluding to the Spanish fleet which was said to be on its way to the Philippines Aguinaldo, in a letter to Consul-General Wildman, says:—"The Spanish relief fleet on their way here does not in the least disturb me. I doubt if they will be able to enter Manila Harbour. Admiral Dewey is not asleep." While on this point we may add that an Austrian gunboat is now in Manila Bay. When she made her appearance there was great excitement among the Spaniards, who mistook her for one

of the relief vessels, the Austrian flag being somewhat similar to that of Spain.

No one seems to know when the final move on Manila will be made, Admiral Dewey keeping his own counsel on the matter. Aguinaldo wished to make the final assault on Sunday, but was dissuaded from doing so. The Spaniards in Manila are destroying all the buildings along the sea front so as to give them a better opportunity of resisting landing parties. There are between 5,000 and 8,000 regulars in the city, in addition to volunteers. In the meantime provisions continue to get scarcer, and in order to prevent exorbitant prices being charged the Government have published a list of all goods sold with their prices attached, so that one can demand anything at the price fixed by the Government and the shopkeeper is obliged to sell. Of course this is a great boon to the purchaser, as prices are practically the same as before the troubles began. The conduct of the Government has naturally given great offence to the shopkeepers, many of whom have closed their business premises rather than sell at the prices fixed. Hitherto the blockade has not been very strictly enforced, or the condition of those in the city would have been much worse than it is. Admiral Dewey has been most indulgent. Communication with the Bay is kept up all day by the launches, and in this way provisions are taken ashore. In consequence of it getting to his ears that the German fleet had been landing large quantities of rice and flour for the use of the Spaniards in the city the Admiral decided to be rather more strict, and has put a pinnace at the end of the jetty to overhaul all launches going backwards and forwards.

The American troops at Cavite are engaged in regular routine drills and target practice awaiting the second detachment of troops, who are expected to arrive on the 17th inst. The men are beginning to show the effects of a change of climate and condition of living. General Andersen issued a general order calling attention to the necessity for exercising great care in eating and drinking. He had it read daily for a week, but in consequence of their not attending to the warning and drinking unboiled water and indulging too much in the native liquor some of the men are in hospital. There are about 150 down with dysentery.

The insurgent leaders appear to have settled some of their differences. Sandico is among them again, and took part in a kind of social gathering at Cavite the other day, delivering a speech which he concluded by calling for three cheers for the United States, a call which was obeyed with great enthusiasm. Songs and recitations were given by men from the American vessels, and altogether a most pleasant evening appears to have been spent.

Two thousand Spanish prisoners held by the Insurgents at Cavite have been removed to Imus and Bulnean.

The steamer *Culya*, from Australia, arrived in Manila Bay the other day with a cargo of frozen meat for the American troops.

During a review of the troops Aguinaldo sent the military band which had deserted from the Spaniards to take part.

Port St. Louis in the Ladrone is likely to prove of considerable strategic value. It can be easily made into a very strong position, while it is conveniently situated, being about 3,300 miles from Honolulu, 1,800 miles from Hongkong, 1,300 miles from Manila, and 1,200 from Yokohama.

The second division of the Philippines expedition consists of five ships—the *Centennial*, *Zealandia*, *Ohio*, *Colon*, and *China*—carrying 6,000 men, with Major-General Elwell S. Otis in command.

THE INSURGENTS AND THEIR PRISONERS.

WHAT AN ENGLISHMAN SAW.

An Englishman in Manila, writing on Sunday last says:—

"I have just returned from an interesting visit to Cavite. I left Manila at eight this morning in the Norwegian Consul's launch accompanied by the Consul, who is an Englishman (Mr. Coney, head of W. F. Stevenson and Co., merchants here) six other Englishmen

making up the party. The trip across takes some time, as it is fully ten miles, if not more. We had to call at the flagship *Olympia* to enable the Consul to send his card on board and get permission to land. The request was granted immediately, Admiral Dewey proving himself to be a gentleman of the first water. The distance from the shore (Cavite) to the ships is about a mile, and on the way one passes the relics of the Spanish men-of-war, simply masts and funnels appearing above water, although in one ship we counted five guns not submerged but of course now of no use.

"We all went in a body on shore, noticing especially the rebel flag flying everywhere. An enterprising firm has a store here where we found several American soldiers busily buying necessities for their messes, besides changing gold dollars into the coin of the country.

"Further along we came to the arsenal, where we saw several hundred Spanish soldiers, prisoners, looking through the barred windows of this low building clamouring for bread and cigarettes. Then we did what we all do when we go to the Zoological Gardens in London, viz., bought several dollars' worth of packets of native cigarettes and little rolls of bread and threw them through the bars to these poor chaps, who fought like so many wild beasts. When they got noisy a nigger who perhaps some few weeks before was bending the knee to them would open the door and belabour them with a heavy stick to keep them quiet, they not daring to retaliate. I saw this with my own eyes. Of course there are American sentries on duty, and I asked one of them why this was so, and he told me that the prisoners I saw were those captured by the rebels themselves and that they were being fed by the rebels, the Americans having nothing to do with them. He told me also that they were fed only twice a day on rice and water, barely sufficient to keep body and soul together, so no wonder they clamoured round us for food. I saw a party of about 20 of them out for an airing in charge of a nigger with a loaded musket. It is really very sad to see these white men being lorded over thus by an aborigine.

"The natives have become too elated since the Americans came, and now think they are going to have a republic to themselves, when the Americans will quietly sail away home, but they are greatly mistaken. They will find it a different task fighting an American to fighting a Spaniard."

THE AMERICAN TROOPS AT CAVITE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT WITH THE AMERICAN FLEET.]

Manila, 3rd July.

The troops have arrived nearly 3,000 strong, landed at Cavite, and taken up quarters at the Navy Yard and Fort St. Philip. All the men were on shore by six o'clock last night, Saturday, July 2nd. They arrived in the late afternoon of June 30th. The following day was occupied mostly by conferences between Admiral Dewey and General Andersen and in making preparations on shore for the coming of the troops. A few battalions were landed late Friday afternoon, the work was continued all day Saturday and by darkness the entire force was off the ships. Not a single accident marred the undertaking, there was no unusual confusion, and, considering that the situation was entirely new to the officers of the army corps, the landing was carried through most successfully. Although four-fifths of the soldiers are enlisted from the State Militia or National Guard of Oregon and California, they look like hardy trained warriors and suited to a campaign against the Spaniards in the Philippines. They have an earnest business-like way about them that impresses all who watch their movements.

The Regulars of the 14th U.S. Infantry are located at the head of the Navy Yard near the Arsenal. Further down are the officers and men of the 1st California Regiment of Volunteers. Just outside the gates on the left as one enters Cavite from the Yard and in Fort St. Philip are the Oregon forces, the 2nd Regiment of Volunteers.

General Andersen has made his head quarters in one of the separate houses of the Navy Yard.

His staff is quartered mostly in the same building.

There has been great excitement in Cavite ever since the arrival of the troops. Thousands of natives have flocked to see them. The large open space in front of the Navy Yard and Fort St. Philip is being used as an exercise and parade ground. On this gather in leisure hours squads of soldiers either surrounding natives and questioning them carefully about the situation—for many of the Americans speak Spanish—or answering the questions of natives who gather around in large numbers.

THE GERMANS IN MANILA BAY.

THE GERMAN ADMIRAL AND ADMIRAL DEWEY.

THE AMERICANS ANXIOUS TO MEET THE SPANISH RELIEF SQUADRON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT WITH THE AMERICAN FLEET.]

Manila Bay, 10th July.

The attitude of the Germans still continues the chief subject of discussion, despite the presence of troops. In fact the soldiers are as indignant as the sailors over the German demonstration, and loudest among those who condemn are the men of German blood or descent. All sorts of stories are rife about the relations of the Germans and Spaniards, but the Germans emphatically deny that they have in any way given assistance to the Spaniards. One feature of the situation attracts the attention of those who are watching the political side of it and that is the diplomacy shown by Admiral Dewey. He is managing the blockade with marked skill, using diplomatic as well as naval expedients. Of all men in the fleet, he probably worries the least over the conduct of the Germans. He knows and watches everything they do and yet his relations with the German Admiral seem most agreeable. It is reported on excellent authority that the German Admiral has informed Admiral Dewey that he has intended in no way to give offence to America and his movements are not in the least to be construed as a demonstration. Admiral Dewey is also thought to have told the German Admiral that perchance it would be better if matters were managed a little differently. Everybody is expecting to see an end in the near future to all this German "business," whether it is required by orders from Washington and Berlin or by the independent action of the Admirals themselves. One thing is certain—Dewey's backbone is strong and it needs no strengthening, but when the *Monterey* arrives in a few days there will be less fooling of the kind that irritates and disturbs. She will be followed in a reasonable time by the *Minadnock* and then, if necessary, Dewey will be in a position to say to any fleet that comes to Manila that he controls the Bay and proposes to have the going and coming of ships regulated by rules that will not be misunderstood.

To sum up the German situation, it is about as follows: The large German fleet here has assembled by orders from Berlin and not by advice of Admiral von Diederichs. The German vessels here are acting in other words chiefly on orders from the home Government. This does not in any degree excuse what happens, but it means that the German Admiral will not dare undertake any serious step without consulting Berlin. His ships have done and are doing some rash and impertinent things, but as long as they are not caught in *flagrante delicto* there is no probability of any actual unpleasantness between Admiral Dewey and Admiral von Diederichs. There are stories upon stories told of peculiar conduct on the part of the Germans but it is difficult to prove them. They are being watched and if any of these allegations prove facts, explanations may be demanded of more than passing nature. What surprises everyone here is Germany's failure to realize that she is doing herself more harm than good and practically cutting her own throat. The Americans will never forgive the Germans for their active friendship to Spain and meddlesome attitude in the Philippines. It will not only hurt their trade

immeasurably with the United States, but destroy all her chances of having any say or influence in the disposal of the Philippines if they become the property of the United States.

The opinions I have expressed above are founded on careful interviews with leading American, English, German, French, and other authorities who are accessible and do not hesitate to express their views provided their names will not be used.

Coming now to live news, the most important incident of several weeks has just transpired at Subig Bay. The insurgents have been for some time capturing places in the vicinity of Subig. A few days ago they took the last village on the bay, causing the Spanish soldiers and residents in the neighbourhood to make their escape to Grande island at the entrance to Subig.

In the meantime a Spanish steamer of about 400 tons, the *Philippinas*, put into Subig for refuge. While there the native crew killed the Spanish officers and handed the boat over to the local rebel leader. He equipped an expedition to attack the island, but seeing a German man-of-war, the *Irene*, in the bay near the island he concluded to come into Manila Bay, report to Aguinaldo and get reinforcements for the capture of Grande island. Owing to some fear of misunderstanding with the German warship, the insurgent flag was lowered and the white one raised as he left Subig.

When the report was made to Aguinaldo he in turn informed Admiral Dewey. The Admiral saw the opportunity to get the Spaniards out of Subig Bay, which next to Manila is the most important point on the coast of Luzon. Early Thursday evening, July 7, he ordered the *Raleigh* and *Concord* to proceed with all dispatch to Subig, capture the island and garrison, and return with no signs of Spanish strength left in the bay. They arrived there at 8 a.m., found that the German vessel had left, and after shelling some buildings and lesser points demanded and obtained the unconditional surrender of the Spanish forces, numbering 500 with as many rifles, 40,000 rounds of ammunition, and one 37 millimeter Hotchkiss rapid fire gun. The commander was Lieutenant Colonel Rio. There were aside from the garrison about 100 women, children, and non-combatants. The captured guns and ammunition were loaded upon the *Raleigh*, but the prisoners were turned over to Aguinaldo to look after under assurances of proper care. They remain the Admiral's prisoners, but as he has no facilities for caring for them he leaves them to the insurgents under proper safeguards. Captain Coghlan of the *Raleigh* conducted the expedition assisted by Captain Walker of the *Concord*. Lieutenant Rodman of the *Raleigh* and Ensign Napier of the *Concord* conducted the negotiations for surrender.

The American squadron, with the *Baltimore* returned and the *Charleston* added, together with the troopships *Peking*, *Sydney*, and *Australia* still here, presents a most imposing appearance and nearly fills up the anchorage off Cavite.

There is absolutely no fear whatever here of the Spanish fleet which is reported as coming on. Every ship is in splendid trim, the men are in the pink of condition and actually hope that the Spaniards will come. The powerful *Monterey* and the none the less powerful *Minadnock* will be here before the Spanish reinforcements can possibly arrive. With them Admiral Dewey could not only destroy his adversaries as they are, but a still larger squadron if it should come.

The *Boston* leaves in a few days to meet General Green and the second expedition, which is accompanied by the *Monterey*. They will arrive here about the eighteenth or possibly before, but they are not expected much prior to that.

The captured *Leyte* is proving almost as useful as the *Callao* and is used every day for all kinds of purposes. She has been especially useful since the troops arrived. The *Zafiro* is being drawn up on Young's slip at Sanley point and having her bottom cleaned. This will give her two knots more speed as a despatch boat. The *McCulloch* has just taken Lieut. McCaire, of General Andersen's staff, Lieut. Calkins of the *Olympia*, and a few other army officers for a

careful reconnaissance above Manila. Yesterday a detachment of army officers made a long detour around the Spanish lines and sized up the situation. Nearly 800 men from 1st California regiment were sent out on Friday by the General to try the roads out of Cavite. They found them bad but say that they can march over them all right if they will be allowed as a reward to get at the Spaniards.

General Andersen is a strict disciplinarian and has his forces well in hand. Drilling goes on every day, including target practice. Both the California and Oregon regiments are a fine, vigorous, brave lot of men. It does one good to look at them. They mean business and would go into battle to-morrow if they had the opportunity. The regulars of the 14th Infantry, however, are better drilled and more seasoned. They do everything with the same clock-like precision that characterizes the experienced British soldier. Most of them are veterans of the Indian campaigns in America and do not know what fear is. When they are told how the Spaniards have surrendered at Old Cavite and other points they cannot understand how the soldiers could be guilty of such lamb-like submission. There is little or no sickness among the troops on shore and none at all among the seamen in the squadron.

The reason that Manila is not taken is the best in the world. The place is absolutely at the mercy of Admiral Dewey. He could compel its surrender to-morrow if he wished, but the simple fact is that the Admiral will take Manila when he "gets good and ready" and not until then. That date may be to-morrow and it may not be for another week. Admiral Dewey does not tell the world his plans, but when he does anything, he does it effectively. Manila will fall in short order when Dewey gives the word, and the Spaniards know it.

Consuls and other responsible parties that come out of the city freely admit that the Spaniards cannot make successful resistance. Then again they cannot help respecting the American Admiral and much prefer to surrender to him than be taken by the insurgents. Spanish respect for the Americans has gradually increased since the battle of May 1 until now they are almost ready to pray for protection against the rebels.

Admiral Dewey is stiffening the blockade and has notified the foreign men-of-war and Consuls accordingly. Ships that have come and gone by his permission have taken advantage of the kindness and overstepped their privileges. As a result strict orders are now issued against all vessels coming into port and proceeding to Manila without full approval of the Admiral. On Thursday the *Esmeralda* came in without previous arrangement and consent. The *Callao* was sent out to hail her. Capt. Japian's orders were that the *Esmeralda* should be sent back to sea. Capt. Tayler tried to persuade Japian that he meant no wrong but his arguments had no effect. So she turned around and left Manila Bay without going to Manila at all.

The Belgian steamer *Culga* has arrived with frozen mutton and fresh supplies from Australia for the fleet. Everybody is living high these days. The *Woutan* is still here unloading stores for Cavite. The *Kwonghoi* is not yet able to obtain coal for her return to Hongkong.

The rumours of the coming of more British men-of-war are heard with unfeigned pleasure by both the army and navy. When a few British officers went ashore at Cavite the other day, cheering by the soldiers was only restrained by order of officers.

An Austrian corvette, the *Aurora*, arrived on Wednesday. She is not a very powerful looking man-of-war but gives Austria a representative here. On Thursday she came down from the foreign fleet and saluted the Admiral's flag. At the present writing there are up opposite Manila three Britishers, three Germans, two Frenchmen, one Japanese, and one Austrian. There may be other Germans at Marivales.

The insurgents are keeping up their persistent nagging of the Spaniards and getting in close to Manila all the time. Their cordon about the city now is nearly continuous. Fighting goes on every night, but few are killed. The general situation is easy. There is no great excitement. General Andersen and Gen-

eral Aguinaldo are in communication and no friction whatever exists, as the Spaniards claim in Manila.

In closing I would add that every sailor and soldier I meet asks me if the Spanish fleet is coming and when I express doubt a look of disappointment comes over his face. The American army corps and naval force want the Spaniards to come!

The general feeling here is that in the matter of Aguinaldo's coming to Cavite as much credit is due to Consul-General Wildman as to Consul-General Pratt. While no one doubts that the latter rendered valuable service, his endeavours do not minimize those of the former. It is further reported here that Mr. Wildman could have been the object of special grateful demonstrations on the part of the Philippines had he desired, but that he declined the proffered opportunity of being formally and publicly thanked.

Any stories about misunderstandings between Aguinaldo and Admiral Dewey and General Andersen can be denied as being not only untrue but ridiculous.

THE WAR FEELING IN SAN FRANCISCO.

[FROM OUR SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT.]

San Francisco, 17th June.

We are having the war fever in the United States, although it is not everywhere as perceptible as here in the City of the Golden Gate. Thousands of volunteers come from almost every section of the Republic, and the white tented city near the Park is well tenanted. Two days ago 4,200 of its temporary denizens departed. They were marshaled on board the transports *China*, *Zealandia*, *Colon*, and *Senator* under command of Brigadier General Greene, and at 1.15 p.m. of the 15th the little squadron sailed. The second expedition to the Philippines well under way, arrangements are in progress to prepare the third. How many men will be dispatched altogether is hard to tell; but it is certain that any number of men will be forthcoming as they are required. There is serious talk at Washington of a third call for 50,000 men.

To the outsider, that is to the man who is not a citizen of the United States, the present phase of its history is exceedingly interesting. Many of us held the opinion that, owing to the cosmopolitan character of the people, patriotism, or what we understand by that term, would be an unknown quantity here. Well, we were mistaken, badly mistaken. I have taken pains to sound the opinion of many naturalized citizens. Those of German, Dutch, English, or Scandinavian birth are heartily with the country of their adoption. Citizens of French or Belgian origin show very little enthusiasm; in fact I doubt if their sympathies are not more with Spain; but they are naturally guarded in the expression of their opinion. It would be extremely unhealthy for any one to express sympathy with or advocate the cause of Spain in a public manner. There would be certainly an avenger near, and the Courts would not entertain an assault and battery case against one who resented an insult to his country.

Most remarkable is the frenzied enthusiasm of the school children, regardless of the nationality of the parents. I have interviewed Young America of every possible parentage and have found it warlike in the extreme. Cosmopolitan as this city is, it boasts of a French and an Italian quarter; the Germans and other nationalities are scattered, but the sons of France and those of Italy hang pretty closely together. Young America there is as enthusiastic for the Stars and Stripes as the small descendant of the Pilgrims. In my opinion this proves that the Anglo-Saxon stock can absorb or amalgamate with the Caucasian kindred.

Another fact which well deserves notice is the belligerent ardour of the Jews. Right here in San Francisco sons of wealthy Jewish families have enlisted as privates with the consent of their parents, and are now on the way to the Philippines. In Chicago a company of 200 young Jews, sons of men prominent in business, was formed, and will make a part of the expeditionary force. Altogether, a patriotic vitality has developed which the world may well notice and heed.

Rumours fly thick and fast about a possible coalition of European powers. It is pleasant to note the universal change of opinion regarding England. I say universal because, a few papers catering to the Irish element excepted, every influential journal seems grateful for the moral support received from Great Britain and the British. It is remarkable how the disagreeable sentiment prevailing against the United Kingdom has changed. The time may not yet be ripe for an offensive-defensive alliance between the Republic and the mother country, but let any Continental nation or a coalition of Continental nations dare interfere with the administration's aims and public opinion will look toward England to back it in its defiance. Even now there is a strong feeling that the United Kingdom together with the United States could enforce their joint decrees, regardless of the aims and purposes of any other nation.

While President McKinley has given plenty of evidence that he would have avoided the war had there been any possibility of doing so, there is no longer any doubt that this administration has resolved upon and inaugurated a policy directly at variance with the traditional Monroe doctrine. There is now talk, and serious talk too, of a billion dollar navy, and there are few members of Congress, Democratic or Republican, who would dare vote in the negative and have due regard to the patriotic ebullition of their constituencies. The non-sensational papers, those most closely in touch with public opinion, even such as opposed a war policy to the last moment, now advocate what they are pleased to designate as "an Imperial policy." Many favour annexation of the Antilles as well as of the Philippines. By the time you receive this the Hawaiian Islands will have become an integral part of the Republic, notwithstanding the bitter opposition of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Mr. Tom Reed was conveniently sick when the final vote on annexation was taken (June 15).

From the size of the army of occupation and the civil officers accompanying it, it is easy to conclude that the Philippines will be annexed. Whatever feelings of regret from patriotic motives such decision may arouse, for the world at large it will, I fancy, be a good thing. It is true that for some years to come, the United States will be wedded to a protection policy; but the expense connected with outlying colonies, the necessity of a larger army and navy, and the subsequent increase of public expenses, will very soon expose the fallacy of the protection system. The American (all who know him agree to it) is nothing if not practical; and once convinced of the error of his method, he will discard it without the slightest compunction.

One effect of the United States entering as a factor in Far Eastern politics will be the calling of a halt in the land grabbing business. The apathy with which the acts of Russia, France, and Germany, were considered here was due to the distance from these shores. The Americans, large as is their country and freely as many travel in it, are as a nation more provincial than cosmopolitan in sentiment. To the great majority a German, Scandinavian, or any native of the northern part of Continental Europe, is a Dutchman, just as every Jew must of necessity be a German Jew to him. His horizon is confined to "The States." Beyond that the world to him is immaterial. So long as they leave him undisturbed in the States, he is perfectly willing that other powers act as they please beyond his sphere. But within that sphere he brooks no interference.

The fact that the Government interfered in Cuba does not gainsay this statement. Some of the metropolitan papers cater to the morbid propensities of the masses and will do anything to procure sensational items, illustrated by highly coloured so-called pictures. In the absence of anything nearer home, Cuba was a god-send to them. It was a matter of dollars and cents to these papers and as the country press is intimately connected through the news agencies with that of the metropolis, the misrule of Cuba assumed national proportions. Spanish arrogance, cruelty, ultramontanism, vanity, indolence, and whatever national vices have descended from the Middle Ages, can have no defender among a progressive nation, and so far as colonial territory is concerned, Spain's doom is sealed. But this will force the United States

to enter more intimately amid the comity of nations.

There exists a dim perception of the fact that the Republic has entered upon an unknown path. However dark this may be, the American has hardihood and self-possession enough to advance with sturdy step. The 19th century is not yet ended. Strange things may pass before we date out letters A.D. 1900.

R. VAN BERGEN.

THE DISTURBANCE IN KWANGSI.

THE REBELS RETIRING.

Letters have been received from Wuchow, we learn from the *Chung Ngoi San Po*, stating that the rebellion in Kwangsi had its origin in the purchase by Canton merchants of rice from the various districts of Kwangsi to be shipped to Canton. On the 2nd inst. some vagabonds, trying to stir up the people to raise a riot, told the villagers not to allow rice to be exported, saying that if any large export took place there would not be sufficient grain left to supply the local demand. The vagabonds and the villagers, who fell into their trap, then commenced to make an attack on the Canton merchants and seized all the rice they had already bought. The merchants at once made good their escape into the city of Yunghsien, where nearly all the big shops are owned by Cantonese. The vagabonds, who tried to seize this opportunity to raise a rebellion, began to burn the houses belonging to Cantonese in Yunghsien and to put the Canton people to the sword to the last man. The Magistrate, hearing of what was taking place went with some lukongs to restore order and was killed. The rebels then planted the rebel standard in the yamen of the magistrate, whose wife and son were also killed. Every possible means was used by the rebels to induce the people to come to their side, and their number was accordingly enlarged to over six thousand. An attack was made on the following day on the city of Lukchuen-hsien, the magistrate of which dared not make any resistance and effected his escape. The rebels, thinking that they had sufficient force to conquer the whole province, divided themselves into several parties, surrounding the cities of Pokpak, Watlum, and Paklau, the magistrates of which ordered all the city gates to be closed and made a stout defence. The districts of Chongng, Wai-chap, and Sumkai also made every preparation for their defence in case they should be attacked. All the telegraph wires were cut by the rebels, who also took possession of all the barriers. On the 3rd instant the Governor of Kwangsi sent some military officers and a large number of soldiers to suppress the rising. The rebels, who were very poorly armed, many of them having only long bamboos as weapons, fought bravely, but they were forced to retire after about one hundred and forty of them had been fatally shot. They have now abandoned the cities of Yunghsien and Lukchuen and turned their way westward. The Canton soldiers arrived at Samkiang on the 6th instant; but it is very probable that their assistance will not be wanted, as it is reported that the rebels are gradually dispersing. The Viceroy Tan has, however, given instructions to Admiral Ho Chang-ching to get all the gunboats ready in Canton and to enroll more soldiers to be prepared for any emergency.

In a later issue of the *Chung Ngoi San Po* we read that letters have been received from the district of Waichap, in Kwangsi, saying that the rebels mostly belong to the clans of Chu and Li, in Yung-hsien. The magistrate of that place, hearing of the disturbance, arrested eight of them and put them into prison. This action kindled the anger of the rebels, who at once marched into the city, set fire to the houses, and killed all the Cantonese whom they found on the way. They broke into the yamen of the Magistrate and released all the prisoners in the prison. The report that the Magistrate together with his wife and son had been killed is untrue; they escaped long before the arrival of the rebels and hid themselves in the house of a Sansz. After the city of Yunghsien had been captured, the rebels turned their steps to Lukchuen-hsien, where they were joined by the rebels of the clans of Chan and In, so that their force was greatly increased. They had no difficulty in

taking the city, as the Magistrate effected his escape without making any resistance. The rebels then divided themselves into several parties to make attacks on the neighbouring districts. The city of Paklau was also captured by the rebels, and the Magistrate, a native of Canton, taken prisoner. When the rebels were on the point of putting the Magistrate to death, a wealthy Sansz came forward with a good number of men and fought bravely with the rebels, who at last declared themselves willing to hand the Magistrate over to the Sansz. A concubine of the Magistrate was found by the rebels in the yamen and was killed. The rebels have now been driven westward by the soldiers, but are still taking possession of some places. Over one thousand mutilated bodies of rebels have been picked up by the charitable institution Kwong-yau-sin-tong of Wuchow floating down the river.

THE SHOOTING OF THE COMPRADORE OF THE "DOSHING."

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Wuchow, 9th July.

The rebellion is in full swing. Tungyuan and Paklau are reported to be sacked. Soldiers have arrived from Canton and Kweilin. The absolute incapacity of the officials to deal with this matter is only equalled by the senseless state of "funk" (no other word describes it) of the inhabitants of Wuchow, who are leaving the place in large numbers.

The situation was further complicated by the action of the captain of the steamer *Doshing* a vessel really Chinese owned but flying the American flag and chartered to take Chinese soldiers up to Tungyuan. She left on the evening of the 7th, and some disturbance arising on board, the captain shot the compradore of the vessel dead, and Mr. Woods, the vessel's local agent, who attempted to interfere, received a bullet through his hand. The vessel returned to Wuchow and the captain goes under arrest to Canton to-day, 9th inst.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on the 14th, July when there were present the President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer), who occupied the chair, the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), the Director of Public Works (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby), the Acting Registrar-General (Mr. E. W. Brewin), and the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Clark), the last named being Acting Secretary.

MINUTES.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the ACTING REGISTRAR-GENERAL, the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a correct record.

REGULATIONS FOR THE SALE OF POISONS.

Draft bye-laws for regulating the sale of poisons, to be made under sub-section 22 of section 13 of Ordinance 24 of 1887, were submitted and considered, and on the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, it was decided to refer Bye-laws 4 and 5 back to the Attorney-General.

THE DISINFECTION AND CLEANSING OF HOUSES IN BRITISH KOWLOON

Mr. Frank Browne, Acting Government Analyst, reported as follows on the disinfection and cleansing of houses in British Kowloon, the report being dated June 22nd:—

"I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that the cleansing work in British Kowloon for which I was appointed in April last by H.E. the Acting Governor on the recommendation of the Board is now concluded.

"A great deal of cleansing was done, particularly in Yaumati. The following table shows the extent of the cleaning carried out at the expense of the Government:—No. 11 district (Hungshom and villages): floors washed only 29, cleansed and limewashed (floors) 20, obstructions removed 88, coolies employed (exclusive of limewashers, who were paid by piece-work) one day each 496. No. 12 district (Yaumati, etc.): Floors washed only 36, cleansed and limewashed (floors) 528, obstructions removed 82, coolies employed one day each 875.

"Where washing only was required in houses the inmates usually carried out the work of their own accord, which fact will explain the small amount of washing only that was done by the Government. Although an opportunity was afforded to the tenants to do the lime-washing required very few availed themselves of it on account of the expense.

"The obstructions removed consisted of bunks, cocklofts, cubicles, doors, josses, and latrines, which had been erected in such a way as to deprive the rooms of light and air. A great improvement has been effected in most houses by these removals, as the removal of a single obstruction has in many cases converted a dark, ill-ventilated room into a healthy and cheerful habitation. However, experience has shown that these obstructions are put up again as soon as vigilance is relaxed, so it is earnestly hoped that special attention will be directed so that such structures may be at once demolished if re-erected.

"Cleansing in No. 11 district was commenced on April 20th last and completed on May 23rd last. The houses here are for the most part very good and substantial, but in the event of another epidemic attention should be particularly directed to Shung On lane and Dock lane, in which the houses are inferior, several cases of plague having been traced from Shung On lane. On May 7th the whole of Hungshom was disinfected with a mixture of salt, manganese dioxide, and sulphuric acid. It was considered advisable to disinfect the whole of the place, as a number of bodies had been found on the hill-side, and it was impossible to find out which houses were infected and which were not, so the safest plan was adopted of disinfecting them all. No case of plague could be found to have occurred in the houses of Hungshom after the disinfection, although several bodies were afterwards found on the hill-side, but the number of these bodies being only 11 from May 7th to June 13th a further disinfection on a wholesale scale was not considered necessary.

"In No. 12 district cleansing operations were commenced on April 20th and the work was completed on June 2nd last. A number of cases of plague having occurred at Tai-kok-tsui a visit was paid to this village on April 24th, when it was seen that a large proportion of the inhabitants were living in insanitary dwellings—huts, boats, and hovels. On April 26th the whole of the district was disinfected with salt, manganese dioxide, and sulphuric acid. The people in the huts, boats, and hovels were for the most part trespassers on Crown land; they were not agriculturists, but apparently merely loafers of no use to the colony. In an industrial centre like Tai-kok-tsui such dirty and insanitary hovels are particularly objectionable. Fortunately now many of them have been destroyed. Since the disinfection on April 26th no further cases of plague have occurred in the houses at Tai-kok-tsui, but several cases have been found in the hovels and on the fore-shore. The majority of the houses in Tai-kok-tsui are well constructed, and with the hovels removed there should be little fear of plague another year.

"It was early seen in Yaumati from the number of deserted floors that a number of bodies had been carried out from the houses and placed in the street or in other open places. The whole place was therefore disinfected as in Tai-kok-tsui on May 7th, and the number of dead bodies found in the street subsequent to this disinfection being considerable chloride of lime was placed on every floor in Yaumati on May 17th.

"It was not at all surprising to find so many dirty houses in Yaumati, considering that with the present arrangement of the kitchens it is absolutely impossible to prevent smoke from penetrating the living rooms. There are but few houses in Yaumati that have proper arrangements for carrying away smoke. In many houses the smoke is continually present in such quantities as to be extremely irritating to the eyes and nostrils of a European. Can people living in such houses be expected to keep either their houses or themselves clean? But, worst of all, in order to keep the smoke out of the living room, the inmates block up the window between the kitchen and the living room, so that a through

current of air is shut off from that direction. This smoke nuisance can be easily abated, as suitable clay fireplaces can be easily and cheaply put in.

"Many dark houses would be greatly improved by letting a small square of glass into the roof. Dark houses were nearly always dirty.

"Houses 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Fourth lane, are in a dirty and insanitary condition; they are all little better than hovels. They have been disinfected three times. Some boats on the foreshore above high-water mark at Yaumati should be removed.

"The houses in Fuk Sing lane will require a lot of attention, as a number of cases of plague have occurred there. The drains in several of these houses have had to be unblocked several times; probably they need repair.

"On May 31st all the sampans in this district (No. 12) were examined. The boats were very clean for Chinese sampans; no sick people were found except two children just recovering from smallpox.

"A large number of houses have been disinfected with chlorine. The process employed for disinfecting simultaneously a large number of houses without removal of the inmates was to place in each room on each floor two ounces of a mixture of one part of salt and one part of manganese dioxide. On this mixture was poured six ounces of diluted sulphuric acid (1 in 4). This gave off slowly but continuously for about 12 hours a stream of chlorine which did not greatly interfere with the inmates, who were told to open all their doors and windows if the action of the chlorine became too suffocating. Throughout Kowloon the Chinese gladly received this disinfectant, and speaking generally we found that they were ready to obey any directions in order to be protected from plague, provided that such directions did not mean that they were put to any expense.

"For disinfection of closed houses in which plague had occurred the following process was employed: close the doors, windows, and all apertures as completely as possible (a carpenter is required for this). Then place half a pound of chlorinated lime in a pot and well mix with a quart of water. Place this in the centre of the floor and pour on a quart of diluted sulphuric acid (1 in 5). Where the floors are large two pots to each should be used. Commence to disinfect on the top floor. The following quantities of substances for disinfection have been used: 3 cwt. manganese dioxide, 3 cwt. salt, 800 pounds of sulphuric acid, 3,000 pounds of chlorinated lime.

"House to house visitation was carried on by Sergeant Cameron and P.C. Cormack after the cleansing of the whole district of Kowloon was completed on June 2nd. All the Chinese houses in British Kowloon were visited. The visitation was considered by me to be unnecessary after June 18th.

"C. P. C. Lovell was in charge of a cleansing party from April 20th to May 3rd, when his place was taken by P.C. Cormack, who returned to his ordinary duties on June 19th. Sergeant Cameron was in charge of a cleansing party from April 20th to June 18th, after which he returned to his ordinary duties. C. P. C. Lovell, P.C. Cormack, and Sergeant Cameron carried out extremely satisfactorily the work entrusted to them."

Attached to the report is a return which shows that in No. 11 district 26 cases of plague were removed from March 16th to June 13th, and that in No. 12 district during the same period 149 cases of plague were removed.

The following minutes were appended:—

The PRESIDENT—"The Board should by resolution thank Mr. Browne for the very valuable work he has voluntarily done for the Board, and a synopsis report should be forwarded to Government. I should like to know whether the Medical Officer of Health does not think that disinfection by chlorine is better than disinfection by sulphur. If he does then it would be well if the method adopted by Mr. Browne were always adopted by the Board. Personally I have not much faith in the sulphur disinfection."

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—"The attached report gives my opinion concerning burning sulphur as a disinfectant. The apparatus ordered by the Board is due here now.

I do not consider that chlorine in germicidal quantities is a safe disinfectant for general use and in small quantities (as used in occupied houses in Kowloon) I do not consider that it is of any value."

The report alluded to by the Medical Officer of Health is one which he presented to the Board in January last, in which he expressed his dissatisfaction with the process of fumigation with burning sulphur in operation in the colony, and recommending the purchase of two disinfecting sprayers as used in the city of Paris for some years past with great success.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—I beg to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Browne for the valuable services rendered by him during the epidemic of bubonic plague. Mr. Browne gave up a great deal of his time. He is not in any way connected with the Board and his assistance certainly has been of very great value.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to second.

The motion was carried.

THE PLAGUE AT AMOY AND SWATOW.

A letter from the British Consul at Amoy, dated July 2nd, said:—"I have the honour to inform you that it is universally stated that the epidemic of bubonic plague is abating here. The medical men here are of opinion that the plague is dying out and that they will soon be able to declare this port free. The Chinese authorities take a still more rosy view of the situation, and state that the plague is finished, I think it best, before declaring the port free, to wait a little."

A return from Macao showed that during the week ended June 26th there were two deaths from plague.

A letter from the British Consulate at Swatow, dated July 9th, said—"I am of opinion that the disease is practically stamped out here, and that there is no further danger of its importation into Hongkong from this port. Under these circumstances I venture to hope that His Excellency will no longer insist on the medical examination of passengers leaving this port for the colony. Swatow is a big shipping port and has only one medical officer, and this examination, besides being a considerable expense to ship-owners, is frequently a cause of delay in the departure of steamers."

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH stated that the Board had taken no action with regard to Swatow. Swatow had not been proclaimed.

The PRESIDENT—Is there any recent information with regard to Amoy?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—No; I am expecting another letter, because in the last letter the Consul said we had better wait a little before we do anything further.

The subject then dropped.

THE WATER CLOSET QUESTION.

Application was made for permission to erect trough-closets at the new married quarters to be erected by the military authorities.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he begged leave to move that the Board adhere to the lines of the policy adopted by the Board on the recommendation of the sub-committee in days gone by, and that, this application falling outside the category of buildings which they had agreed to allow to have water-closets, they inform the applicants that they regretted they were unable to entertain the application. He thought the less they had to do with water-closets in this colony the better. Unfortunately they had gone a certain distance, and personally he was very averse to going any further.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH seconded.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS opposed the motion. He was not aware to what rule the Vice-President referred. He was not aware that while he had been on that Board any such rule had been laid down, and he felt in no way bound by suggestions made by a former Board. Whenever this question had come up he had always been in favour of water-closets. He thought it a much more civilised manner of getting rid of night-soil than the system in vogue in Hongkong, and if there was a sufficiency of water he would strongly advocate its general introduction into the colony.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—There is a resolution on record founded on the report of the committee of the Board appointed to consider the whole question.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said he did not realise that this question was likely to

lead to a discussion. The matter came to him as Director of Public Works, and he approved of these water-closets. He had not the slightest idea at the time that the thing would come before the Sanitary Board. He forgot that it required their sanction. He would suggest that the matter be allowed to stand over to another meeting to enable them to consider the thing a little more fully.

The PRESIDENT said that personally he was in favour of postponing the matter until the next meeting before coming to a conclusion. He thought himself that the main reason which led the sub-committee to oppose the introduction of water-closets was the limited water supply. Now that they had an abundant water supply he thought the matter might be reconsidered. He might remark that only that morning he was reading about an epidemic of typhoid fever at Norwich, and he saw that there were fewer cases in houses with water-closets than in those without.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said an application had been made to them, and they had got to say either yes or no. It was better for the Military Authorities to know whether the Board would grant the application or not. The Board had got the fullest information on the subject, and he did not know what further information it required.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to move as an amendment that the matter be reconsidered in a fortnight.

The ACTING REGISTRAR-GENERAL seconded. The Amendment was carried.

ANALYST'S REPORT.

Mr. Frank Browne, Acting Government Analyst, in his report for the quarter ended June 30th, says that he examined six samples of milk and nine of whisky. Of the former two were genuine, and of the latter eight, the rest being adulterated.

HONGKONG MORTALITY RETURNS.

The Hongkong mortality returns for the week ended July 2nd showed the death rate per 1,000 per annum to be 15.9, against 14.7 for the previous week and 22.9 for the corresponding week last year.

The proceedings then terminated.

RIOTING IN SZECHUEN.

MISSIONS DESTROYED.

A FRENCH PRIEST CAPTURED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS." SHANGHAI, 11th July.

The Protestant and Roman Catholic Missions at Shuiching, in Szechuen, have been destroyed in a riot. Yumchang and adjacent towns are disturbed by brigands, who have captured a French priest, for whom they demand a myriad taels ransom. Several natives have been killed. Much property has been destroyed. The situation is critical. Chinking is quiet. The foreign consuls are on the alert.

DEATH OF MR. TENNANT OF YOKOHAMA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "DAILY PRESS." YOKOHAMA, 11th July.

Mr. H. Tennant, the editor and manager of the *Japan Gazette*, died this afternoon from the effects of a pistol shot.

The funeral takes place to-morrow, the 12th. [Mr. Tennant arrived in Japan from England in 1890, having been appointed editor of the *Hiogo News*. In 1892 he left Hiogo for Yokohama to assume the editorship and management of the *Japan Gazette*. He was highly esteemed in both ports, both socially and professionally, and his death will be regretted by a wide circle of friends.—Ed. D.P.]

SHANGHAI, 11th July.

Mr. Tennant, of Yokohama, shot himself this morning and died in the afternoon. His motive is unknown.

The *China Gazette* understands that Boyd & Co., Limited, have obtained a contract from the Russian Government to build ten tow boats, launches, and barges for harbour work at Port Arthur and Tientsin.

LAUNDRYMEN ON STRIKE.

WHAT THE CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE PROPOSES.

12th July.

Yesterday at noon a large deputation representing the proprietors of the public laundries in the city waited upon the Captain-Superintendent of Police (the Hon. F. H. May) for the purpose of consulting with him in regard to the difficulty in which they have been placed by their employes coming out on strike. One of the bye-laws relating to laundries made by the Sanitary Board on the 1st of August, 1895, and approved by the Legislative Council on the 16th of August, 1895, says:—"Any room used as a public laundry shall not be used either as a dwelling or as a bed-room, or for any purpose other than that of a laundry." This is a bye-law which will meet with the approval of every European member of the community. Recently some shopmen and foks have been prosecuted for committing a breach of this bye-law, they having been proved to have used the laundry premises as sleeping places. They have taken offence at this, and in the hope of bringing about a change have struck work. As Mr. May told the deputation, there is not the slightest chance of this bye-law being altered. He added that if the men refused to return to work steps would have to be taken which would result in their services being dispensed with altogether so far as the Europeans are concerned. We understand that Mr. May proposes to see if arrangements cannot be made to get the washing of Europeans' clothes done in the Gaol. If this proposal can be carried out it will be for several reasons an improvement on the old system.

The proposal of the Captain Superintendent has had the desired effect. For on getting to know about it the laundrymen in the Central District decided to resume work, and the Wan-chai laundries are expected to start to-day.

13th July.

The strike of laundrymen is now practically over. Many of the laundries resumed work yesterday, and before the end of the week they will no doubt all be in full operation. The threat of the Captain Superintendent of Police to commence a laundry in the Gaol has acted like magic, as the laundrymen recognise that if once a laundry is commenced in connection with the Gaol a good deal of their business will be gone for good. It certainly would be much better if instead of having so much "shot drill" the prisoners could be usefully employed either in washing or something else.

THE CAINE ROAD MURDER.

EXECUTION OF OZORIO.

DEATH PRACTICALLY INSTANTANEOUS.

At about six o'clock on Monday morning, 11th July, Joan de Matta Ozorio was executed in Victoria Gaol for the murder of Francisco Xavier de Jesus on the evening of the 9th of May last. Our readers will remember that Ozorio was engaged to be married to Miss Glafira Portario (the cousin of the murdered man), who resided with Mr. and Mrs. de Jesus at No 2, West Terrace, Caine road. Ozorio had got it into his head that his sweetheart had been unfaithful to him, and appeared to have half suspected that Mr. de Jesus was the betrayer, though from the evidence given at the trial there was not the slightest ground for the suspicion. At about half-past six on the evening of the 9th of May Ozorio and his sweetheart were in the verandah at No. 2, West Terrace. They were quarrelling; the girl had endeavoured to take from Ozorio a revolver which he had purchased at that afternoon from Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co. Mr. de Jesus's mother came out to tell them to keep quiet, and Ozorio gave her a push. A few minutes afterwards Mr. de Jesus came home. Hearing that his mother had been pushed down, he went on to the verandah, and addressing Ozorio asked, "What is this, Joanica?" and Ozorio immediately emptied five chambers of his revolver, four of the bullets striking Mr. de Jesus, who rushed into the house and died within a few minutes. Ozorio was disarmed by a young man named Xavier, assisted by Miss Portario, and was immediately afterwards given

into the custody of an Indian constable while walking along Caine road.

The following day he was brought before Commander Hastings at the Magistracy. There were several remands, considerable delay being caused by the difficulty experienced in getting certain letters or copies of letters found in Ozorio's desk translated from Portuguese into English. Ultimately prisoner was committed for trial, and on Tuesday, June 21st, his trial on the charge of wilful murder was begun at the Supreme Court and did not conclude until the Friday evening following, when the jury, after a consultation lasting but six or seven minutes, brought in a verdict of guilty and that prisoner was of sound mind when he committed the deed. Ozorio had a most able counsel in Mr. Francis, Q.C., who delivered an address for the defence which could not have been improved upon. The case was, however, from the first, practically hopeless. Ozorio had a reputation for eccentricity, and an endeavour was made to magnify this into a predisposition to insanity; but no medical evidence was called to support the suggestion that Ozorio might have been temporarily insane when he shot Mr. Jesus, while on the other hand Dr. Atkinson, Dr. Lawson, and Dr. Thompson expressed a contrary opinion.

Sentence of death having been pronounced upon prisoner, the Portuguese community, headed by Mr. Romano (the Portuguese Consul) did all in their power to secure a reprieve. A petition presented to His Excellency the Governor admitted the justice of the verdict but expressed the hope that the sentence would be commuted "out of consideration for Ozorio's family and friends, out of consideration for the Portuguese community, who will be put to shame by his public execution, out of consideration for the criminal himself to give him time for repentance, out of consideration for the Portuguese nation and people, the faithful allies and friends of Great Britain, who have abolished the death penalty among themselves, who have stipulated in their treaty for the extradition of criminals, that no English subject given up by them shall be subject to the penalty of death, and who will feel ever grateful, if in the administration of public justice on a Portuguese subject who has become liable to the extreme penalty of English law, regard may be had to Portuguese feeling and opinion." The petition was considered at a special meeting of the Governor and the Executive Council, who decided that the law must take its course.

Both the Macao papers contain articles expressing regret that the petition for a commutation of the sentence was not granted. It appears that immediately after the commission of the crime the Governor of Macao telegraphed to the Lisbon Government stating the circumstances and the probable penalty. The Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs took up the case and even the Queen of Portugal, so it is said, wrote to Queen Victoria. Letters from the Governor and the Bishop of Macao to the Governor of Hongkong are published in our Portuguese contemporaries. The Bishop's letter is given in English as follows:—

"Governo Ecclesiastico da Diocese de Macau—To His Excellency the Honourable Major General, Governor of the English Colony, Hongkong—Honourable Sir,—A man can commit a crime without being a criminal. Tribunals never did and never will be able to estimate with rigour and exactness the amount of liberty that violent passion, such as jealousy, leaves to man. It is for this reason that the fundamental law of all civilized nations places in the hands of the Sovereign Ruler the sacred privilege of pardoning and commuting sentences. As a Portuguese citizen and as a minister of the Religion of Jesus Christ, which is all sweetness and mercy, I approach, with the greatest respect, Your Excellency, in the name of Him who prayed for pardon for those who crucified Him, to ask you for clemency and mercy for the unfortunate Portuguese Joao da Matta Ozorio, who in the Supreme Court of Justice of Hongkong has just been sentenced to death. Clemency and mercy, Sir! Your Excellency's most humble servant in J. C. (Signed) Jose, Bishop of Macau."

The dread sentence was carried out at six o'clock in the morning in the presence of the Superintendent of the Gaol (the Hon. F. H.

May), Dr. Thomson (Medical Officer at the Gaol), Chief Warder R. H. Craig, a priest, and the necessary gaol officials. Ozorio's demeanour during the trial and since was such as to lead one to conclude that when the end came he would not meet his fate with anything like composure, but that the scene on the scaffold would be rendered still more painful by the unhappy man's breaking down. The Superintendent of the Gaol, when our representative questioned him on the point, said he preferred not to say anything.

The inquest was held in the Gaol before Commander Hastings, the jury being composed of Messrs. D. H. Silas, J. Makie, and A. F. de Jesus Soares.

The jury having been sworn they proceeded to view the body, which was laid on a trestle in a shed. The face looked thin, but the expression was not unnatural, and the mark caused by the rope on the neck was plainly visible.

R. H. Craig was the first witness called. He said:—I am Chief Warder at Victoria Gaol. The body the jury have been to view is that of Joan de Matta Ozorio, who was committed to gaol under sentence of death on the 24th of June last. The sentence was duly carried out at 6-2 this morning, in the presence of the Superintendent, Dr. Thompson, and myself. I produce the Governor's warrant.

Dr. Thomson said—I am the Medical Officer at Victoria Gaol. I was present at the execution of the prisoner Ozorio this morning, and at 7-30 I examined the body. I found dislocation of the neck with compression of the spinal cord.

Commander Hastings—In your opinion was death instantaneous?

Dr. Thomson—Practically so.

A verdict of "Death by hanging according to the justice of the law" was returned.

The body was subsequently removed and buried by Ozorio's friends.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

KINDERGARTENS.

The annual report of Mr. A. W. Brewin, Inspector of Schools, is published in the Government Gazette. Exceptional interest attaches to it as the first report of the new Inspector. The educational policy of the Government has hitherto been largely influenced by the opinion of the Inspector for the time being and assuming that it will continue to be so influenced in the future we may expect to see a return to the lines laid down by the late Dr. Stewart. The following are extracts from the report:—

NATURE OF THE EDUCATION GIVEN IN THE SCHOOLS IN THE COLONY.

There is no change to record under this heading. The Government has been unable as yet to give effect to its resolve to encourage an English education in future for the Chinese population. In schools which give an English education the syllabus is founded on that in force in English primary schools, and the text-books used are also those in use at home. But it is questionable whether either syllabus or books are suited for the teaching of English to Chinese. The text-book most in use in the first standard seems to have been compiled with the object of including as few words as possible. And boy of twelve—and that is the age at which Chinese begin to study English—should be able to learn twice or three times as many words in the course of a year. I do not see how the same methods and books can be suitable both for English and Chinese boys, nor how, from an educational point of view, the best results can be obtained in a school where boys of both nationalities are taught in the same class, and I doubt whether there are compensating social advantages to be gained from the association. In purely Chinese schools the education approximates very closely to that given in schools in China. It is true that geography (of a very elementary kind) is taught in the higher standards, and arithmetic, as an extra subject, but in the teaching of Chinese itself there has been no advance for the last twenty years. In the Annual Report for 1876 Dr. Stewart wrote:—"The School Book Committee's books,

"which were at first neglected and not a little despised, are now read in all the schools in the colony over which there is Government supervision. . . . The series promises to have more success than could ever have been anticipated for it." My predecessor held that Chinese must be taught according to Chinese methods, and that accounts perhaps for my finding that, with very few exceptions, these books are no longer to be met with in our schools. I am unable to believe that the Chinese have said the last word on education and that no progress is possible. According to the Code, in all standards except the first, explanation is required of the text-book which has been learnt by heart, but the masters have found it easier to teach their pupils to get the explanation itself by rote, than to train them to exercise their intelligence. The teaching of English to Chinese instead of their own language has not a few advocates, but to make a proper use of their English, Chinese ought to have a fair knowledge of their own language first, and considering the short time that the ordinary Chinese boy stays at school, the small knowledge of English acquired by him does not compensate him for his complete ignorance of his own language. In his report for the year 1888 Dr. Eitel wrote:—"To enable every child first to learn to express thought and feeling correctly in the vernacular tongue, before attempting to acquire a foreign language . . . (is a) sound pedagogical principle. . . . Too many Portuguese parents, who speak Portuguese only, send their boys, when six years old, to an English school and insist upon their being hurried as quickly as possible through standard after standard, in order that they may the sooner get employment as clerks and contribute towards the support of the family. The result in most cases is that the mental progress of such scholars is but superficial, that they become mere smatterers in English and, worst of all, such systematic hot-house training stunts not only the mental energies but has often also the effect of a blight upon the higher moral perceptions." The above remarks would be still more true of Chinese.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Very good work is being done among the Chinese by the various Missions which undertake female education. Its chief value, which lies not in any purely educational results but in the great progress which has been made in overcoming the distrust with which Chinese view advances made by Europeans, is derived from the close supervision exercised by European ladies and from the education and training of Chinese teachers having also been conducted by Europeans. I did not view with much sympathy efforts made to induce Chinese girls to learn English. Under present circumstances an education in English may tend to unfit them for the position which they expect to take in their own society. It certainly will not render them fitter to take it, nor to enter any other society. Improvements in the education of men must precede improvements in the education of women. The Chinese have not yet shown any appreciation of an education in English for their boys except as a means of making money, and it is idle to expect them to give to their daughters what they have not given to their sons. The objections which Chinese parents have to their daughters learning English are not based on unworthy motives, but are very natural and laudable. As a rule girls stay at school longer than boys, and twice as many girls as boys are presented for examination in the four highest standards. This has an important bearing on statistics dealing with the percentage of children at school, and also on the relative value of the education received at boys' and at girls' schools. The knowledge acquired in Chinese schools by children who leave before reaching the 14th Standard can hardly be said to have any immediate practical value. The actual number of girls at school is greater than it has ever been, though the proportion of girls to boys is not so high as it was in 1893. This is due to the large increase in the number of boys in schools in which English is taught.

KINDERGARTENS.

The Kindergarten School attached to the Basel Mission is still in existence, but is no longer under trained European supervision.

An application was made to have the school placed under the Grant-in-Aid Code, but it was not granted, and unless the Government is willing to make a grant to a considerable number of such schools, it will not be worth the while of any society to obtain the services of a trained teacher from home. I have been given an opportunity of seeing the school at work, and the brightness of the children, their cleanliness, and their absorption in their work and games left a very favourable impression. The school is a great boon to the poor women of the neighbourhood who have to be out at work all day; but if the Government ever undertakes the task of infant education, it will be necessary to insist on the schools being taught by properly trained teachers, or they will become merely nurseries without any educational effect. From a social point of view, the opening of infant schools under constant European supervision is much to be desired, as the sooner Chinese children come in close contact with Europeans, the more perfect will be the harmony between the Government and the Chinese population.

THE ART SUPPLEMENTS.

With to-day's issue is given a series of three art supplements, the arrangements for which were made some months ago by Mr. Wellesley Parker. The sheets have been printed in seven colours by Messrs. Fletcher & Co., of Norwich, the eminent colour printers. Each separate sheet has its special features of interest and the complete series forms an attractive panorama of the colony, exhibiting the most striking views, scenes of Chinese life, and principal business establishments. An unfortunate delay has occurred in the production, owing to a portion of the work having to be re-executed in order to bring it up to the desired standard of excellence, but the final result is a specimen of artistic advertising worthy of the colony and of the many important firms that have availed themselves of its advantages.

SHEET A.

Sheet A has as its centrepiece a view of the city of Victoria from the harbour, with a portrait of our late Governor, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G.; a view of the Masonic Hall, with portrait of the Hon. C. P. Chater, Right Worshipful District Grand Master; a view of the men-of-war decorated for the Diamond Jubilee, and the following advertisements:—

Eastern Manufacturing Co., Clocks, &c.
Noronha and Co., Government and General Printers.

Barretto and Co., Agents for Minneapolis Brewing Co., Cementlight Paint Co., West of England Varnish Co., Armour and Co., of Chicago, Ch. Bruchant and Co., of Bordeaux, Mitchell Bros., of Belfast, Jose Mompou, Wine Exporter of Valencia.

G. Falconer and Co., Watchmakers and Jewellers; Agents for Lord Kelvin's Instruments, Ross's Optical Goods.

Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited, Agents for Aluminium and General Foundry Syndicate, Limited, W. Willson Cobbett, Lewis Berger and Sons, Limited, Geipel Steam Trap, New Wire Wove Roofing Co., Limited, Turton Bros. and Matthews, Snowdon Sons and Co.

H. Price and Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants; Sole Agents for Moët and Chandon, Eugene Clicquot, H. Lenoy and Co., The Distillers Co., Limited, John Dewar and Sons, Limited, Chas. Wilkinson and Co., Dunville and Co., Limited, Ind. Coope and Co., T. B. Hall and Co., Hanappier and Co., Kohler and Van Bergen, Langenback & Sohne, Geoffroy & fils, Gooderham and Worts, Schade and Buysing, Vin de St. Lehon.

John D. Humphreys and Son, Agents for Hongkong High Level Tramways Co., Limited, Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited, New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, Tebrau Planting Co., Limited.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Cottam and Co., Gentlemen's Outfitters.

Jardine, Matheson and Co., Merchants; Agents for Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, Canton Insurance Office, Limited, China Sugar Refinery Co., Limited.

A. S. Watson and Co., Limited, The Hongkong Dispensary, Chemists, Analysts, Manufacturers of Aerated Waters, Perfumers,

Wine and Spirit Merchants, Cigar Dealers, Seedsmen, &c.

Kuhn and Komor, Japanese and Chinese Fine Art Depot.

Hongkong Butchery Co.

Lane, Crawford and Co., General Importers, Furniture Makers, Piano and Musical Instrument Dealers, Ironmongers, Hosiers, Tailors, Shipchandlers.

Watkins and Co., Apothecaries Hall, Chemists, &c.; Sole Agents for Scott's Emulsion, Schlitz Beer, Beecham's Pills, Maypole Soap, Bovril, Ltd., Esset's Fluid.

F. Blackhead and Co., Navy Contractors, Shipchandlers, Sailmakers, Wine, Beer, Spirit, and Provision Merchants.

Fletcher and Co., The Pharmacy, Chemists, &c.; Agents for Vin Tonique Pasteur, Tansan Mineral Water.

Geo. R. Stevens, Merchant; Agent for Singer Manufacturing Co., Imperial Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., Tokio, Graziar's Meat Export Co., Brisbane.

Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited.

Achee and Co., Furniture Dealers, Importers, and General Commission Agents.

Kruse and Co., Cigar Merchants and Tobaccoists.

Chs. J. Gaupp and Co., Chronometer and Watch Makers, Opticians, Jewellers, Gold and Silver Smiths; Sole Agents for Voigtlander's Binoculars and Telescopes, Ritchie's Liquid and other Compasses, Admiralty and Imray Charts, Nautical Books, Lord Kelvin's Patent Compasses and Sounding Machines.

SHEET B.

Sheet B contains views of the Harbour, of the Hongkong Club, the Hongkong Volunteers on parade, and the following advertisements:—

Butterfield and Swire, Merchants; Agents for China Navigation Co., Ltd., Ocean Steamship Co., Scottish Oriental Steamship Co., Ltd., British and Foreign Marine Insurance, The Sea Insurance Co., Ltd., Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation, London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., Palatine Insurance Co., Taikoo Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., British Borneo Trading and Planting Co., Atlas Assurance Co.

Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Agents for Miike Coal Mines, Kanada Coal Mine, Ohnoura Coal Mine, Yoshinotani Coal Mine (Karatsu), Daijio Coal Mine, Miike Cotton Spinning Mills, Ltd., Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Mill, Ltd., Tokyo Cotton Spinning Mill, Ltd., Tokyo Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., Meiji Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Cotton Cleaning and Working Co., Shanghai, Imperial Government Paper Mill, Onoda Cement Co., Ltd., Hayashi Clock Factory.

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

Holliday, Wise and Co., Merchants; Agents for China Mutual Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., Manchester Fire Assurance Co., Clark and Co., Ltd., "Anchor" Sewing Cotton, Crossley Bros., Ltd., "Otto" Gas and Oil Engines, J. B. White and Bros., Portland Cement, Muntz Yellow Metal, Stockton Milling Co.

William Lyssaught and Sons, Engineers and Shipbuilders; Agents for Scott and Bros., Halifax, England; Stephens, Whittaker and Sons, Halifax, England.

Madar and Farmer, New Victoria Hotel and Rotisserie, and Victoria Hotel, Canton.

Wilkinson, Heywood and Clark, Ltd., David Storer and Sons, Dealers in Varnish and Paints.

Geo Fenwick and Co., Ltd., Engineers and Shipbuilders.

J. Ullmann and Co., Watchmakers, Jewellers, and Opticians.

Harry Wicking and Co., Merchants and Commission Agents; Agents for Union Assurance Society of London, Steel Company of Scotland, Dick's (late Hannay's) Patent Compositions, F. Reddaway and Co., Manchester.

Caldbeck, Macgregor and Co., Wine, Spirit, and Beer Merchants; Managers of The Aquarius Company.

Shewan, Tomes and Co., Merchants; General Managers of Green Island Cement Co., Limited, China and Manila Steamship Co., Limited, Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited, Societe Nouvelle de Kabao (Tonkin Coal Mines); Agents for Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited, Batavia Sea and Fire Insurance Co., North British and Mercantile Insurance Co., Reliance Marine Insurance Co., Limited, Union Marine Insurance Co., Limited, World Marine Insurance Co., Limited, Man-

Chester Assurance Co., Law Union and Crown Fire and Life Insurance Co., Limited, Ocean Accident Guarantee Corporation Co., Limited, Shire Line, Oregon Railway and Navigation Co. (Trans-Pacific.)

Dodwell, Carlill and Co., Agents for United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Ltd., Northern Pacific Steamship and Railway Cos., Mogul Steamship Co., Limited, Warrack's Line of Steamers, Milburn's Line of Steamers, Burrell Line of Steamers, Natal Line of Steamers, Standard Life Assurance Co., Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Co., Limited, Ocean Marine Insurance Co., Limited, Imperial Fire Insurance Co., Limited, Lion Fire Insurance Co., Limited, Zocus Paint Co., Limited, of London, British Boiler Cleaning and Enamelling Co.

Bay View Hotel, The Ramsgate of Hongkong.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Japan Mail Steamship Co., Japan-Europe, Japan-Australia, Yokohama-Bombay, Hongkong-Seattle, and Japan, Korea, Vladivostok, China, Manila, and other local lines.

Kelly and Walsh, Limited, Publishers, Printers, Booksellers, and General Agents; Agents for Henry S. King and Co., Stanley Bros' Coventry "Psycho" Cycles.

Brown, Jones and Co., Undertakers, Dealers in Marble and Granite Memorials and Monuments.

Wing Kee and Co., Coal Merchants and Shipchandlers.

Kwong Hep Loong, Engineers and Shipbuilders.

SHEET C.

Sheet C contains views of the Queen's Statue, Queen's Road, Praya West, Praya East, Bonham Strand, St. John's Cathedral, the City Hall, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Man Mo Temple, the Temple of the Goddess of Heaven, the Hall of the Tung Wah Hospital, the Jubilee Flower Show Building, and the following advertisements:—

A. S. Watson and Co., the leading Manufacturers of Aerated Waters in the Far East.

L. Martel and Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants, Storekeepers, and Commission Agents.

Williams, Gibson and Co., Cycle Manufacturers, "The Dragon Cycle"; Agents for Cort's Puncture Proof Pneumatic Tyres.

Thomas's Grill Room, "The Leading Caterer of Hongkong."

Chai On Marine Insurance Co., Ltd.

Tai Shing Paper Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Aberdeen Paper Mills.

L. M. Alvares and Co., General Merchants, &c.

Lane, Crawford and Co., Agents for Holzapfel's Compositions Co., Ltd., Napier Johnstone's Square Bottle Whisky, Norman Brown Special Scotch Whisky, Chubb's Safes, Collard and Collard Pianos, Phillip's Wrought Iron Safes.

A. G. Gordon and Co., Engineers and Launch Builders; Agents for Hongkong Steam Launch Co., Ltd.

The Kae Shean Co., Printers, Bookbinders, Rubber Stamp Makers, and Dealers in Electrical Apparatus.

Po On Marine Insurance and Godown Co., Ltd.

Chun On Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Man On Insurance Co., Ltd. (Marine).

On Tai Insurance Co., Ltd. (Marine).

Windsor Hotel.

S. Stockhausen, Draper, Silkmercer, Dressmaker, and Milliner.

Kwong Sang and Co., Shipchandlers, Sailmakers, Provision Merchants, Contractors, Riggers, and Stevedores.

Yee Sang and Co., Coal Merchants.

U. Nervagna and Co., Italian Commercial Agency.

A Fong, Photographer.

Fairall and Co., Drapers, Dressmakers, Milliners, Hosiery, Haberdashers, and General Outfitters.

Kwong Sang, Photographer, Enlargements and Local Views.

Boa Vista Hotel, Macao, "The Sanatorium of South China."

Kinghorn and Macdonald, Consulting Engineers and Surveyors and Machinery Contractors.

"Hongkong Daily Press," "Chung Nogi San Po," Chronicle and Directory, &c.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR JULY.

Members turned out in strong force for this monthly competition and the Pool, and some fair returns have been sent in. The holder of the cup for the month is again a long handicap man, whilst the "Pool" resulted in a tie between three players, who, unless they divide the stakes, must play off within ten days, and their rounds must be the first played on the links after the tie.

Following are the scores handed in:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.			
Mr. E. C. Lane	105	21	84
Mr. P. de C. Morris	93	8	85
Mr. M. Stewart	95	10	85
Mr. G. Stewart	89	3	86
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	99	11	88
Mr. H. Pinckney	98	8	90
Mr. E. F. Mackay	106	15	91
Mr. G. Millward	103	11	92
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	110	18	92
Mr. C. H. Grace	104	9	95
Mr. C. W. Spriggs	112	15	97
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	8	98
Mr. A. J. McClure	114	13	101

26 entries.

POOL.			
Mr. K. G. Campbell, R.A.	99	14	85
Mr. P. de C. Morris	93	8	85
Mr. M. Stewart	95	10	85
Mr. G. Stewart	89	3	86
Mr. G. Millward	103	11	92
Mr. C. H. Grace	104	9	95
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	8	98
Mr. A. J. McClure	114	11	101

24 entries.

WATER POLO MATCH.

V.R.C. NO. 1 TEAM V. KING'S OWN NO. 1 TEAM

This replayed game in the League competition was brought off very pleasantly on Monday, as many spectators as can be accommodated in the limited space available at the Recreation Club witnessing the contest. There was a good struggle throughout, but the V.R.C. men always were superior. They scored twice in each half, whereas their opponents only managed one, that being obtained in the second portion. The ultimate result was V.R.C. 4, King's Own 1. The soldiers were inferior only in throwing the ball, but that is the most important feature in the game and it shows they lack practice.

H. G. BROWN AND CO., LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

The following is the report of the liquidator for presentation at a general meeting of shareholders, to be held at No. 27, Queen's Road Central, at noon to-morrow:—

The Liquidator now begs to present to shareholders a statement of the company's accounts made up to March 31st, 1898.

It is to be regretted that these accounts are not final; but the disturbances in the Philippine Islands have greatly delayed the winding up, and there remain one or two items to be cleared up. When these are closed, the winding-up can be completed, and the remaining assets distributed.

As will be observed from the accompanying accounts, there is a cash balance in hand of \$36,014.53, and this I propose should be disposed of as follows:—

To distribute \$5.00 per share on 6,000 shares	\$30,000.00
To carry forward to next account...	6,014.53
	\$36,014.53

which I hope will meet with your approval.

J. WHEATLEY, Liquidator.

Hongkong, July 12th, 1898.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31st MARCH, 1898.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Dr.			
Capital:—6,000 shares, each \$50 paid up	300,000.00		
Sundry creditors	\$1,644.27		
Less claims liquidated	9,274.57		
	1,769.70		
	\$301,769.70		

ASSETS.

Cr.		\$	c.
Brig "Enrique"	12,180.00		
Banahian cutting	\$10,000.00		
Less amount paid on account	2,500.00		
	7,500.00		
Sundry debtors	\$10,774.91		
Less provision for bad debts	2,433.92		
	8,338.99		
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash with	35,639.82		
Cash in hand	274.71		
Balance of profit and loss account	\$217,040.75		
Less amount of claims liquidated	9,274.57		
	237,766.18		
	\$31,769.70		

LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To saw mill erections and machinery, book value	43,759.10		
To schooner "Congo," book value	15,068.00		
To dwelling houses, book value	11,556.44		
To schooner "Elena," book value	9,519.64		
To steam launch "Lotus," book value	8,602.95		
To Banahian cutting \$15,668.99 book value			
Less amount purchase money unpaid	7,500.00		
	8,166.99		
To stock timber on September 1st, 1896, book value	4,675.00		
To furniture, book value	4,622.42		
To Varadera shares, book value	5,250.00		
To claims liquidated	9,274.57		
	\$125,489.53		

Cr.		\$	c.
By amount of purchase money collected	42,196.25		
By balance carried to profit and loss account	88,293.08		
	\$125,489.33		

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To general expenses, salaries, &c.	10,536.15		
To balance carried to profit and loss account	592.85		
	\$11,129.00		

Cr.		\$	c.
By profit on sales of timber and exchange	11,129.00		
	\$11,129.00		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To amount of debit at time of liquidation	\$122,940.52		
Add book value of good-will	41,400.00		
	164,340.52		
To balance of liquidation account	83,293.08		
	\$247,633.60		
Cr.		\$	c.
By balance of working account	592.85		
By balance	247,040.75		
	\$247,633.60		

THE UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the General Managers to the second ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Hongkong Hotel, on Tuesday next at 8 o'clock in the afternoon.

Gentlemen,—The General Managers beg to submit the accompanying statement of the Company's accounts for the year ending 31st May, 1898.

Profit and loss account.—After providing for the loss of the previous year \$620.08 and balance of preliminary expenses 809.99

there is a credit balance carried forward to next account of \$936.46.

The General Managers regret that the working of the Shanghai Branch has been unsatisfactory during the past year.

The Chief Superintendent of the Company, Mr. Skinner, visited Shanghai in September and December last and, in consequence of his report, the General Managers decided to continue the working of the Branch for a further period. A new superintendent has been appointed, and it is hoped that the results of the next few months' working will warrant a continuance of business at that port.

Mr. Skinner also visited Japan, which he considers a promising field for the Company's operations; business has already been commenced there, and the prospects are such as to warrant the hope of its further profitable development.

The working of the Agency in Hongkong continues to yield satisfactory results.

Auditor.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. William Hutton Potts, who offers himself for re-election.

E. S. WHEELER,
ARTHUR ANDERSON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1898.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st MAY, 1898.

LIABILITIES		\$	c.
To authorised capital, 9,900 ordinary shares of \$10 each	99,000.00		
100 founders' shares of \$10 each	1,000.00		
	100,000.00		
To capital paid up 9,900 ordinary shares at \$2 each	19,800.00		
100 founders' shares of \$10 each fully paid	1,000.00		
	20,800.00		
To bills payable	5,434.79		
To Sundry Creditors—			
Hongkong	8,488.34		
Shanghai	20,324.18		
	28,812.52		
To balance carried forward to new account	936.46		
	55,983.77		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
By Furniture, Fittings, &c.—			
By Hongkong	455.71		
By Shanghai	36.00		
	815.71		
By steam launch "Gladiator"	7,500.00		
By Stock on Hand—			
By Hongkong	32,202.97		
By Shanghai	13,012.28		
	45,215.25		
By unexpired portion of marine & fire insurance policies	89.44		
By sundry debtors	1,912.95		
By stationery on hand	50.00		
By unexpired portion of contract for advertising, Shanghai	44.00		
By cash in hands of general agents	356.42		
	55,983.77		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st MAY, 1898.

Dr.		\$	c.
To balance brought forward at 31st May, 1897	620.06		
To trade expenses (including working launch, general agents' commission, godown rent, &c.)	20,221.88		
To Preliminary Expenses—			
Balance written off	809.99		
To furniture & godown fittings—			
Hongkong written off	100.19		
Shanghai written off	43.47		
	143.66		
To Advertising—			
Hongkong	713.75		
Shanghai	428.72		
	1,142.47		
To interest	1,749.82		
To auditor's fee	50.00		
To balance carried forward to new account	936.46		
	25,674.34		
Cr.		\$	c.
By profit on sales	25,668.34		
By transfer fees	6.00		
	25,674.34		

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourth annual meeting of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Company was held at the offices of the company, at Brisbane, in Queensland, on the 26th May. A fair number shareholders were present, and Mr. James Forsyth was voted to the chair.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, congratulated the shareholders on the continued and growing prosperity of the company, and pointed out the distinct advance that had been made during the past twelve months. Reference was made to the clear and complete information that had been furnished in the acting manager's report, a copy of which, in pamphlet form, had been issued to each shareholder. It was also pointed out that the battery plant additions, consisting of forty head of stampers, were now being received at Singapore, and that this should materially increase the output of gold in the future. During the year Mr. G. S. Murphy

had found it necessary to vacate the secretaryship of the company owing to a prolonged absence from the colony, and the directors desired to place on record their appreciation of the ability with which he had always conducted the affairs of the company. As stated in the report, Mr. Charles A. Clarke, of Brisbane, had been appointed in his stead. The directors desired to tender their thanks to their colleagues on the Singapore board, and also to the officers and staff at Singapore, for the manner in which they had so thoroughly looked after the interests of the company. It was mentioned that Mr. Bibby, the manager, who had been granted leave of absence owing to ill-health, had been visiting England, during which time the directors had been able to avail themselves of his services in connection with various matters, including electrical plant, which was now nearing completion. The chairman reported that Mr. Bibby would return to Queensland by way of Singapore, and the directors looked forward to welcoming him amongst them again shortly.

Mr. Gaden seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors—the Hon. R. Philp, Messrs. De Burgh Perse, James Forsyth, and G. F. Scott—were re-elected, and Mr. T. A. Bond was re-elected auditor at the same remuneration as before. A vote of thanks was passed to the officers and staff of the company, and the proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce held at the offices of the Chamber, 1, Kiukiang Road, on Saturday, the 22nd July, 1898, at 11 a.m.

Present:—Messrs. E. F. Alford (in the chair), C. J. Dudgeon, J. C. Bois, Wade Gardner, W. D. Little, E. Shellim, A. Werth, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Extension of the Settlements.—Letters were laid before the meeting that had been received from the Consul-General for Austro-Hungary, Japan, Spain, Sweden and Norway, United States, the Consul for Denmark, and Vice-Consul for the Netherlands, acknowledging the receipt of the Resolutions of the Chamber, concurring in same and in most cases approving of the proceedings taken and heartily wishing the Chamber success in its undertaking. The Chairman informed the meeting that the new Minister for the United States had visited some of the insanitary districts outlying the present settlements, and had expressed a satisfactory interest in the matter.

Inland Navigation Regulations.—The letter from H.B.M.'s Consul-General enclosing copy of the Regulations was laid before the meeting and led to considerable discussion, the unanimous opinion being that they were insufficient and impracticable. Letters on the subject which had been addressed to the Chamber by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were read, and the draft of a reply to H.B.M.'s Consul-General was agreed to, embodying the general objections that appeared in the above two letters, and giving a list of Regulations which the Committee consider are absolutely necessary.

Chinese Bank Orders.—A letter was read from the Senior Consul enclosing a dispatch from the Taotai regarding certain proposed changes in the conditions of Chinese Bank Orders. The Committee were unanimous that they could not countenance any alterations in the present system, but in order to place the matter beyond question determined to circulate the correspondence amongst the Foreign Bankers so as to ascertain their opinion.

Great uneasiness was felt at Foochow a fortnight ago, says the *Echo*, on account of the price to which rice had risen, but a fall of 25 per cent. in the quotation last week has brought about general contentment and set aside all apprehension of trouble. The decline in price was the work of certain philanthropists who imported rice from the South and supplied the poor with it at cost price.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION IN TONKIN.

A FLOURISHING BUDGET.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL TO CONFER WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON THE YUNNAN RAILWAYS.

The following official despatch from Hanoi has been supplied to the Saigon papers:—

The Governor General held a meeting of the Council of the Protectorate of Annam and Tonkin to lay before it the financial statement for 1897. M. Doumer showed that the fiscal reform carried out last year had given most satisfactory results. Notwithstanding the fall in silver, which meant a loss to the Protectorate of two millions, the year closed with a balance of receipts over expenditure of 2,400,000 francs, which allowed of the wiping off of the whole of the previous deficits and the creation of a reserve fund. Moreover, the pacification having been accomplished and tranquillity assured without military operations, Tonkin had returned to the Metropolis more than three millions of the military credits voted by Parliament.

The budget for 1898, which includes expenditure on great public works—irrigation, railway, etc.—1,300,000 francs in excess of that of the previous year, shows nevertheless for the first six months a considerable balance.

M. Doumer, accompanied by Colonel Pennequin and M. Douville Maillefen, staff-officer of Admiral de Beaumont, is going to Laokay, where he will confer with the Chinese authorities of Yunnan and the engineers who are making the railway surveys.

THE BELGIAN LOAN.

It is stated that the Belgian Loan, contract for which was signed by Railway Director Sheng on the 26th of June last, was accepted at £90 with annual interest of 5 per cent. The first instalment is to be £1,400,000, to be used in building the railway between Hankow and a place called Hsinyang, and the whole loan is to amount to £4,500,000. The contract further provides that all materials required shall be home-made, failing which they are to be purchased from the Belgian syndicate. Should the syndicate be unable to provide the material not procurable in China, it is to be procured by public tender.—*N. C. Daily News*.

PATENT LAW IN JAPAN.

Some extraordinary judgements have been put on record this year by the Japanese Patent Bureau. When the law became applicable to the inventions, trade-marks, and designs of foreigners, the opportunity was eagerly seized by foreigners who sought to get their inventions and trade-marks protected against piracy in Japan. But they have now ascertained that the Japanese laws afford them no protection. It has been held that if an invention has been patented abroad it can't be granted a patent in Japan, no matter whether a day or twelve months have intervened; and now it has been held that a Japanese who pirated and patented a foreigner's trade-mark before foreigners had any right to protection under the Japanese law, may still continue to use the pirated mark to the benefit of himself and the injury of the foreign firm to whom the trade-mark properly belongs.—*Hioigo News*.

THE SCARCITY OF COPPER CASH AND THE RISE IN PRICES.

At a meeting of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, held at Shanghai on the 29th June, Mr. F. E. Taylor read the following memorandum on the scarcity of copper cash and the rise in prices:—

That cash have been growing steadily scarcer and that the evil has been sharply accentuated quite lately (followed in some places with a slight recovery in exchange from the lowest depths) may be stated with certainty. Various explanations are given, some of which are of local but most of them of general application. The scarcity of cash is attributed to the absence of minting which has become unprofitable

owing to the dearness of copper; to the melting down of good cash for the purpose of making utensils instead of using copper; and to a steady increase of population requiring an extended instead of a restricted currency. Mr. Consul Tratman, in his interesting report on the trade of Chungking during last year, wrote as follows:—

"Even more serious than likin is the condition of the copper cash currency. This was referred to in my last report, and in 1897 things have gone from bad to worse. If the officials do not speedily take action it is difficult to see how commerce between distant places in the province can continue at all. The local bimetallic question may be stated as follows. All wages are paid and local purchases effected by means of copper cash;—now a string of 1,000, good Government cash, of which the present Chungking value is about nine-tenths of a tael, weighs 7 catties; thus in view of the difficulty and expense of carriage in Szechuen large quantities of the circulating medium cannot be transported from place to place; according by the larger transactions between merchants in different places silver (sycee) is used; Government accounts are also kept in silver—but the value of silver in relation to cash is continually falling, and during the last five years has dropped at least 30 per cent. One catty of copper costs 0.32 tael of silver, and copper sufficient to coin 100 cash would cost 2.24 taels, exceeding cost of coinage which is considerable if the slow native method is to be used; that is to say, the authorities cannot coin cash of the Government standard except at a very heavy loss; accordingly they have practically ceased to coin at all. Meanwhile, more and more of the circulating medium is required to carry out everyday transactions. Debased and spurious coins increase in number, amounting in some places to 30 per cent of the total circulation; the good cash are being driven out of circulation and melted down in spite of the laws prohibiting such a practice: at present even the smallest purchases cannot be effected without haggling not only as to the quantity, but also as to the quality of the cash to be employed. Further in different parts of the province the cash has very different silver values according to its quantity and quality."

This extract explains the whole difficulty as far as minting is concerned. The reasons given are the exportation of cash to other districts, and the hoarding of cash. The more valuable cash become the more hoarding will increase, especially as such a bulky article is difficult to remove without detection. During the past five years the silver price of cash appears to have risen, speaking generally, 25 per cent. And we are none the less assured that almost all the necessities of life have risen in price whereas we should have expected dear cash to bring about cheaper prices just as the demand for gold in Europe and the hoarding in war chests have sent prices down. Increased population is reported everywhere, making a greater demand upon products of all kinds, while the fall in the gold value of silver has stimulated exports to foreign countries in consequence of the better prices attainable, and has reduced the supply circulate for the natives. The enormous quantities of debased cash in circulation have also contributed to send up prices. In some districts short crops and in some the extended cultivation of the poppy are held to be largely responsible for the dearness of food. In Shantung it is said that the cost of agricultural labour has been increased by the emigration of labourers to Western Siberia. Szechuen complains of short crops, poppy cultivation and export of food stuffs. General Mesny, speaking of this district, mentions increased taxation, increased demand for luxuries, and decreased hours of labour. From Foochow we learn that the province is poorer owing to the falling off in the tea and timber trades, while taxation is heavier. The writers of several of the replies appear to think that poverty is increasing, but this would be the natural result of an increase of population where manufacturing industries have so small a share in the occupation of the people.

The want of cash is in some parts being very slowly and inadequately met by the circulation of a subsidiary silver coinage, and this relief would no doubt extend rapidly was the Govern-

ment careful to keep the coins up to the fixed and understood standard, and to receive all taxes in such coins.

It may be interesting to mention that the mints at Tientsin, Wuchang, Foochow, and Canton altogether turned out the following numbers of subsidiary coins during last year:—

50 cents.	214,796
20 "	31,852,571
10 "	17,892,931
5 "	66,921

We may probably take 920 cash to the dollar as a fair average exchange for the districts served, and these subsidiary coins, therefore, represent a substitute for 7,608,907,242 cash, which sounds a large sum, which may represent something over 8 million dollars. It is difficult to understand why the most useful coin, the 5 cents piece, has been coined in such small numbers, but we may be allowed to hazard the guess that it is to be explained by the smaller profit made in minting—the official in charge considering the interest of the mints rather than the necessities of the people.

The following figures taken from some of the replies received will give an idea of the rise in the silver price of cash during late years. The number of cash obtained for a dollar has fallen in

Wenchow	from 1140 in 1892 to 930 in 1897.
In Shanghai	from 1050 in 1892 to 900 in 1897.
In Tungchow	from 1000 in 1892 to 925 in 1897.

The number of cash obtained for a tael has fallen in

Central Szechuen	from 1600 to 1150.
In Chungking	" 1700 to 1080.
In Wuhu	" 1600 to 1320.
In Shantung	" 1450 to 1210.

In will be noticed that these six considerable variations in the tael prices, part owing to the differences in the local taels and part due to the percentage of spurious cash in circulation.

I do not propose to detain the meeting by going into details of the rise of prices of commodities. The fact is well known and needs no proving.

It would appear that Mr. Grosvenor's statement that while cash will purchase more silver they will purchase less of other articles is almost universally applicable to the whole Empire. It seems beyond question that cash are becoming scarcer every year and that the population is increasing—this causing an increasing demand on a decreasing supply of cash, and continually aggravating the evil. It is also forced upon us that in most districts the population has so nearly reached the limit of the available food supply that quite a small margin of safety is left to meet any partial failure by the crops. The cultivation of the poppy is widely extending and has certainly caused a rise in the price of food stuffs in some provinces. And the cession of Formosa to Japan has cut off one source of supply. The country on the whole is probably poorer than it was, and the foreign loans which have been contracted having been applied to other purposes than the development of the country, represent with the interest paid practically so much money drained out of the country. Money spent on ironclads and gunboats destined to strengthen the navy of some power cannot be regarded as having increased the wealth of the unfortunate taxpayer. There is an appearance just now that the Central Government has at length become alive to the absolute necessity of adopting a new policy, and that the resources of the country will be opened up. Such a policy, combined with heavy taxation, of the land under poppy cultivation, the encouragement of the tea and silk industries, a more sensible fiscal treatment of inland trade, and improved communication, would soon enable China to pay off all her debts and to establish a national and rational coinage which would send down prices and relieve the present dangerous pressure. The increase of population, however, due to early and improvident marriages, which, however commendable from an ethical point of view, are largely responsible for the present distress, is likely to have consequences in the near future which one cannot contemplate without grave anxiety. The Chinaman is an eminently law abiding man, principally because he takes little interest in anything except two absorbing topics—cash and rice. As long as he can obtain a bare

sufficiency of these two unattractive articles the most exciting political events cause him no emotion. But if cash are scarce and rice is dear his most sensitive susceptibilities are stirred, his apathy vanishes and he becomes the most untractable of men. Cash are now scarce and growing scarcer, rice is becoming dearer and dearer, and an ominous spirit of unrest is making itself felt in many parts of the empire. The Government would do well to bestir itself before it is roused up unpleasantly.

CHINESE OFFICIALS' OPINIONS OF RUSSIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

Our native correspondent at Peking writes that the high officials of the Imperial Government, with only a couple of conspicuous exceptions, have had their eyes opened at last to the false friendship of Russia and that the gratitude of the country for the aid in getting back the Liaotung Peninsula has been entirely misplaced. They have also begun to perceive the disinterested help of Great Britain; but that China, while not thanking Japan for pricking the bubble and exposing the hollowness of the country, certainly owes a meed of gratitude to that country for opening the eyes of the literati to the necessity of hurrying up and keeping pace with modern civilisation and requirements, a gratitude which will greatly deepen in the future if Japan continues to show her friendship, by helping China in giving instruction to her people whenever desired and siding with Great Britain in trying to preserve the integrity of China. It is further reported, and our correspondent believes it to be true, that it is the intention soon to dismiss from the military and naval services all foreign instructors with the exception of British, American, and Japanese officers.—*N. C. Daily News.*

CHINA'S COUNCIL OF WAR.

The native correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* at Peking sends the following note:—The Board of Comptrollers-General of Military and Naval Affairs, or Tu-pan-chün-u'n-oh'u, is at last dissolved. With the collapse of the ex-Viceroy Li's crack Hwai regiments first in Corea and then in Manchuria during the late war with Japan, and upon the return to power of the late Prince Kung after several years of retirement in semi-disgrace, the Emperor instituted, at the Prince's suggestion, the above-named Board, composed of Prince Kung, Prince Ching, Weng Tung-ho, Jung Lu, and the late Li Hung-tao. The Board of War officials, the Admiralty, and other similar institutions had almost broken up through panic following upon the victories of the Japanese, and it was imperative to constitute a Board of Councillors to direct the other Departments of State, the organisations of which were on the point of collapse, through the heads of Departments being thrown into panic. Prince Kung grasped the situation at once, immediately assisted the Emperor in constructing this Supreme Council of War, which took over all the work and so saved the whole Empire from collapsing. With the death of the late Prince Kung, the guiding spirit has disappeared, and the Emperor in a decree on Army Reformation the other day incidentally declared that the Board of Comptrollers-General was now dissolved.

THE WRECK OF THE "NAGOYA MARU."

AN UNKNOWN ROCK.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Nagoya-maru*, which struck on an outlying rock about eight miles south of Same Point (Hachinohe) on the 25th ult., says the *Japan Herald*, was found to be sinking, and was at once headed for the beach by the master, Captain Cottier, as soon as he perceived the danger, and after steaming some five or six minutes he finally beached the vessel, which was filling rapidly, thereby saving all—a large number of passengers and the entire crew. The vessel is, we regret to say, a total loss. Captain Cottier and the crew have returned to Yokohama.

The submerged rock on which this fine but unfortunate vessel struck, was not marked on the chart, and previous to the catastrophe was

entirely unknown to navigation, several vessels having passed considerably closer to the shore. It is not an altogether unlikely surmise that this dangerous rock may have been thrust up by volcanic upheaval at the time of the disastrous tidal wave which was experienced in the locality some couple of years or so ago, and the necessity is suggested by what has occurred of a new survey of that part of the coast and its adjacent waters, and of having the new danger charted, so that mariners may be warned of the situation of this dangerous rock. It may be that it is not the only one which a search in that locality may discover.

OPPOSITION TO STEAM-LAUNCHES ON INLAND WATERWAYS.

With the permission given by the Imperial Government to Chinese-owned steam launches to ply for passengers in the inland waters of the empire, and the consequent loss of business to sailing passenger boats in the Yangtze towns, there is naturally a good deal of exasperation felt by the boat people against the screeching interlopers, whose crews are daily receiving threats of extermination for themselves and destruction for the steamers, etc., etc. The turbulent city of Yangchow has again gained that distinction by being the first to offer violence to the interlopers, a steam launch just underway for inland ports being on the 30th ult. intercepted at a bridge by a large mob of boatmen and rowdies. Before much damage was done, however, either to crew or passengers, a military force appeared on the scene and by threatening to fire upon the mob dispersed it for the time, for we may be sure this will not be the last riot on steam launches in Yangchow by any means owing to its very large boating population. News also has been received by wire of the serious outbreak at Tsingkiangpu, on the Grand Canal, in which a steam launch which had but just arrived from Chinkiang was badly smashed and the crew and passengers hurt. The mob then demolished the newly-built jetty and ticket office, seriously hurting the inmates. Soldiers also stopped this riot, but they did not appear until the mob had wreaked their vengeance on their victims.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THE DISCONTENT IN KWANGSI.

Ethnologically the people of Kwangsi and Kwangtung are very different from those of the rest of China, and the difference in race has been marked by a broad distinction in dialect, sufficient were it not for the amalgamating influence of the written character, to constitute a distinct language. The inhabitants of the two Kwangs are physically above the average, but beyond this they have at all times been restless of restraint and difficult to govern. Practically so long as the people of a jurisdiction paid their taxes and conformed openly to the laws and regulations, little or no enquiry was made into their private life, and each community was practically left to do what it liked. This immunity even extended to private wars, and neighbouring tribes and villages often carried on prolonged hostilities, artillery even being put under requisition, and regular campaigns, often lasting for months, or even years, being carried on. The salvation of the government, as a fact, mainly depended on these internal feuds, which prevented the people from coalescing, so, though the mandarinate were generally disliked or more frequently despised, no wide spread movement to free themselves from the yoke of what they considered subjection has been attempted since the days of the Taiping Wang, the "Celestial Emperor," the Kwangsi fanatic Hung Siao Ch'wan. Though news travels slowly in China, in the end it penetrates the mass, and the populace of Kwangtung and Kwangsi know well that China is dominated by a woman. They know more, that as has before happened, that woman has sought to consolidate her own power by disgraceful surrender to the northern frontagers, and that the Oros are really the predominant force in the Palace councils. Those amongst them who study the vernacular literature of the day know besides that in all this the Empress

Dowager is backed up by her henchman Li Hun-chang. Now the name of Li is unfortunately too well known in the south. Li Han-chang, the elder brother, had been Viceroy for many years at Wuchang; his exactions and his nepotism had necessitated his removal, and he was sent as Viceroy to the outlying province of the south in the hope that he would not be able to do much mischief there. But Li Han-chang was quite equal to the situation. Three years of office were enough to drive the people to desperation, and Li had to be finally retired as too bad even for the remote Kwang provinces. The trouble brewed by the elder brother has been assiduously matured in a genial soil, and for the last two years it has been known to all having a knowledge of affairs that the two Kwangs were saturated with rebellion, and were only waiting a leader and an opportunity to break out in open revolt. It will be seen that this is a different position from that referred to yesterday as within the bounds of possibility in Central China. There the loyalty of the Viceroys is above suspicion, and though there may be apprehensions of falling off, the fear is that it may be the north, and that as in the time of the Sung the seat of empire may have to be transferred to the south of the Yangtze. The rebellion in Kwantung is apparently a rebellion pure and simple to free the province from a dominion which has become distasteful. The Kwang provinces have never quite willingly submitted to the T'ings. To the present day a Cantonese is not as a Chinaman elsewhere, a Han or T'ing man. He is still in his own speech a T'ongyan, a man of the T'ang dynasty when China was a powerful state ruled by a native dynasty and with no fear of her northern neighbours. At no period has the feeling of unrest been absent, and it has been only by skilfully working on the mutual antipathies and local jealousies of the various factions, that the government has succeeded in holding its own amidst these turbulent populations. Now that the idea is disseminated widely that the dynasty, dominated by a woman, is under the influence of a foreign Power, and that Power the Oros, the feeling of unrest is strengthened, and a sentiment almost akin to patriotism has been aroused. The situation not only in Kwantung but through the empire at large is one of danger. In setting aside the Emperor and essaying to rule in her own name, and with a Minister so thoroughly distrusted as Li Hung-chang, the Empress Dowager is skating on thin ice, and the whole surface may any time break up.—*Shanghai Daily Press.*

A HANLIN ON RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) are permitted to translate the following letter which was received by a member of the local mandarinat from a friend who was made a Hanlin last June at the Palace examinations:—"I was greatly surprised to learn that Sheng Hsian-huai, as Director-General of the Lu-Han Railway, has almost concluded negotiations with the Belgian syndicate for a loan to build that Railway. When, may I ask, will those in power amongst us learn wisdom? Has not China suffered enough already through the lamentable, nay, criminal ignorance of her statesmen, at the hands of Russian diplomacy? I have been reliably told by certain foreign officials here (Peking) that the Belgian syndicate is composed principally of Russian and French capitalists and that it is Belgian only in name. It therefore seems to me that our high officials intend to stand to the letter of their contract with the Belgian syndicate that it is Belgian and belongs to no other nationality, should Russia or France step in by-and-by and attempt to control the syndicate so as to gain a foothold in the Yangtze provinces and so on northward in the direction of Peking—territory, I have been told, the English guaranteed to the Tsungli Yamen would always remain free from the pernicious grasp of Russian authority. But when will our high Ministers learn that nowadays there is no law of "Right is Might," and that only "Might is Right" holds the field of the diplomacy of the great Powers? Is it necessary to give you proofs? Witness then the con-

duct of the Russians amongst the Central Asian potentates, whose countries and kingdoms are now ruled by the Russian Czar alone! To bring the argument even nearer home and apply that law to our own dealings with Russia, what can our high officials do to the Russian refusal lately to allow Chinese men-of-war to enter Port Arthur? Have we not always been made to believe by the treaty with Russia that the Lord of the Soil there is our own Emperor, and that, in consequence, Chinese men-of-war and merchantmen may enter that harbour at any time? Now that Russia is ensconced snugly there, who is the "Lord of the Soil?" Is this alone not a sufficient lesson to our high officials, but that they must try to make our bonds even tighter to Russia by now borrowing money from so-called Belgians? What a fatality!"

FIRE AT KOBE.

MESSRS. HELLYER AND CO.'S TEA-FIRING GODOWNS DESTROYED

Kobe, 5th July.

Shortly after three o'clock this morning the alarms rang out for a fire on the Settlement, and, as it proved, a very expensive one, Messrs. T. W. Hellyer & Co.'s three tea-firing godowns fitted with costly machinery being totally destroyed. The Settlement Fire Brigade, under Captain Sim, and several Japanese Brigades came upon the scene and rendered most effective service, for the flames threatened to spread over a very considerable area. This, happily, was averted. The fire originated in a manner unknown on the upper floor of one of the buildings, and tea dust being of an inflammable nature, the flames soon spread, rapidly involving three buildings in which the machinery was fitted. By the well directed efforts of the firemen two godowns full of tea situated on either side of the burnt-out buildings were saved, as also considerable property at the rear of the ill-fated premises. The fire caused great consternation among those living or having property in close proximity to it, and the fire brigades have to be thanked for a greatly deal. The loss if fully covered by insurance.—*Hiogo News.*

WEIHAIWEI.

23rd June.

The *Victorious* has joined the ships lying in the harbour. She returned on the 17th inst. On that day several of the British officials came off the ships and, headed by a band and escorted by a few marines and bluejackets, they entered the city and had a conference with the Chinese officials re the incident of the stealing of the materials of the barracks. The headmen of the villages around had been summoned and they begged for pardon and signed a paper promising that nothing of the sort should again occur. I understand that a formal notice was read in the hearing of all those present, and translated sentence by sentence, to the effect that the English were here by arrangement with the Emperor, that they were now masters and intended to act up to that character. One source of misunderstanding has been that up to date no public announcement has been made that the place and district had been passed over to the English. This is a serious oversight on the part of some one and should be speedily attended to. The announcement must be clear and intelligible and be issued by the proper Chinese authority—the Taotai or Governor. If something of this sort is not done, it will take months and years for the people to look upon the English as anything but interlopers and thieves. Even intelligent men in Weihaiwei itself think and say: "Oh, these English will only stay here for a short time. They intend to get the money for the buildings that are being pulled down, then they will up with their anchors and steam away not to return." Such is the popular belief here at present, absurd as it sounds to us. But in time they will probably learn that the English have come to stay.

On the 18th there was quite a demonstration on the mainland. From the ships in the bay some eight hundred blue-jackets were landed. They carried rifles with bayonets fixed and had

two field guns among them, and headed by the brass band of the *Centurion* they spent the day marching through Weihaiwei and surrounding villages. They made an imposing sight. The object as I understand, was a beneficent one: they wished to overawe the people so that later when other buildings were being pulled down there would be no necessity to use violence to restrain the mob. One pitied officers and men, for the weather was exceptionally hot, the trying heat that precedes a thunderstorm. I hear that several men fell out of the ranks through heat prostration.

Already it has been found necessary to select a piece of ground on Linkungtao as a cemetery. On the 15th inst. Dr. Macaulay of the *Centurion* died rather suddenly and on the following day he was buried. Two French priests came down from Chefoo on a torpedo-boat destroyer for the very brief service at the grave.

Within the past few days your correspondent has been in the country some few miles to the east of Weihaiwei. He there heard of a case of piracy which was said to have shortly before taken place in the vicinity. The men who did the act belong to a small island called Kinungtao, about seventy li to the east of Weihaiwei. The boat attacked was a small Japan junk. Everything of value was taken, though no one was injured. My informants said that the Japanese Consul with a few soldiers (I presume from Chefoo) had arrived at the place to look into the matter, and during the enquiry no one was allowed to leave the island. Probably there is some truth in the story, but just how much one does not know. It may complicate matters a little, for I have it on good authority that the "neutral zone" extends as far as 121 deg. 40 min. east longitude. It includes Wenteng and Yungcheng *hsiens*, a part of Ninghaichou and part of another *hsien*—perhaps six to eight hundred square miles in all. If the "neutral zone" means what it did in the case of the Japanese, then Chinese troops will not be permitted to locate in this district, and it certainly will prevent the hoisting of another flag on any part of the Promontory, the latter probably being the point aimed at, as I understand England claims suzerainty over that district. One would expect that, with the above limitation, matters will proceed as before, under Chinese magistrates. Yet some active intervention may be found necessary as time goes on.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

PEKING.

1st July.

Last Sunday registered the hottest day Peking has seen in six years. The thermometer at four p.m. stood at 104 F. in the shade and at six p.m. registered 100. Previous to this 10 was the record.

GERMAN ENTERPRISE.

In spite of such high temperature events in the political and financial world keep moving on. The Germans are busy daily at the Tsungli Yamèn, pushing the interests of a German firm, to oust Yung Wing from his concession for the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway and put the Germans in possession thereof. Many influential Chinese have stated that they would rather this important road should be given to some other nationality to build and control, but as none are apparently competing for it the Germans will probably have a walk over.

YUNG WING CORNERED.

At any rate instructions have been issued to Yung Wing to produce the necessary capital at once or resign. As far as is known he cannot produce a cent and so he will likely, very reluctantly it is true, have to make way for his more powerful rivals.

The Peking syndicate represented by Chevalier Luzzatti scored again on the 21st inst. when the Tsungli Yamèn signed a second contract with them, this time giving them control of the mining privileges and necessary railroad and water outlet to navigable rivers in three northern prefectures of Honan. Truly Luzzatti has managed his affairs well and is entitled to great credit for his success. Mr. Pritchard-Morgan has left for Japan with the intention of returning within a month to again press his scheme for a Government Bureau of Mining.

THE RUSSIAN SPECTRE.

While such a scheme might be beneficial to the Government and also incidentally, of course,

to Mr. Morgan, I learn from Chinese in authority that there is not the slightest prospect of success. Even if the Chinese were willing, and they are not, still Russia would never consent to allow another service similar to the Customs to be inaugurated in China with an English head and English staff.

CHINESE OFFICIAL CHANGES.

The official world was in a flutter for a few days after Weng Tung-bo's dismissal from office, not knowing what would follow. But all is now quiet and likely to remain so. Wang Wen-shao having filled all Weng's important billets. The Emperor's other tutor, Sun Chianai, from Anhui, has been appointed a Chungtang or Grand Secretary, and we know of no one more worthy of that great Chinese distinction. Sun *Taijen* is a kindly, affable, old gentleman of progressive tendencies and good intentions. Wang Wen-shao's appointment to the Cabinet is regarded by the progressive party as giving no strength to the Cabinet. Although not particularly conservative he is dilatory and weak. It is thought Yung Lu will make a very good Viceroy of Chihli. As *Titu* of Peking he was energetic and commanded respect.

THE AWAKENING OF SHENG.

Director of Railways Sheng got a red-hot edict from the Emperor blaming him for doing nothing too vigorously, whereupon the Belgian contract was promptly signed.

THE EMPEROR ON THE MOVE.

The Emperor has determined to go to Canton by rail as soon as the railway can be completed, and having made that decision he is impatient of delay. China has certainly begun to move and with some vigour too at last. Since getting rid of Weng the Emperor has daily read extracts from the leading foreign newspapers besides looking at the pictures of the leading English and American illustrated weeklies, which are labelled for his inspection. Weng would not permit this when he was in power.

To-day the Weihaiwei convention was signed in the Tsungli Yamèn to the satisfaction of both parties. Weihaiwei however won't amount to much with the Germans controlling the railroads and industrial enterprises to be started in Shantung.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

HONGKONG.

There were 1,554 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 171 were Europeans.

A marriage has been arranged between Lieutenant Ingpen (of the Prince of Wales Own, West Yorkshire Regiment), and Miss S. Lyall, daughter of Mr. James Lyall.—*Straits Times*.

The steamer *Knight Templar* has been chartered by Messrs. Apar & Co. to run temporarily between Calcutta and Hongkong in place of the *Aratoon Apar*, which has been docked at Calcutta.

On Thursday morning a junior lieutenant on the Chinese cruiser in the harbour jumped into the water with the intention of having a swim. He was, however, not seen again, and it is supposed he was seized with cramp.

On Saturday afternoon a coolie was employed storing logs behind a godown at Kowloon when some of the logs slipped and he was crushed beneath them. The man was so seriously injured that he died shortly afterwards.

The steamer *Hongkong*, which arrived at Woosung from Hongkong on the 9th July, was quarantined for three or four days, owing to a death on board among the Chinese passengers. The deceased, it was said, was a Chinese official.

The master of the *Yuensang* (Capt. J. Kynoch) appeared before Commander Hastings on Saturday to answer a charge of neglecting to go into the quarantine anchorage on the 19th of June when on a voyage from Amoy, which had been declared an infected port. Defendant said he did not know quarantine was in force at the time. A fine of \$200 was imposed.

At the Magistracy on Saturday a junk master was charged with having brought certain animals into the colony used for human food in a way which caused needless and avoidable suffering. The vessel was from Huensang. There were 161 animals on board whilst there should not have been more than 70 or 80. Three died on the way, and 27 were badly cut by ropes. Fined \$50.

For infringing the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster-General in conveying letters from Hongkong to Canton and not taking them to the General Post Office for transmission on Wednesday, a Chinaman was at the Magistracy on Thursday fined \$50, the alternative being six weeks' imprisonment.

The maximum temperature last month was 91.1, on the 2nd, and the minimum 73.6, on the 16th, the mean for the month being 81.6. It has been generally remarked that June was an exceptionally cool month, but the mean was over, not under, the ten years' average, which is 80.5. The rainfall was 14.25 inches.

At Singapore on the 28th June the steamer *Lightning* landed 400 Chinese at the quarantine station, in consequence of a case of plague having broken out on board. The vessel also carried a detachment of the Hongkong Regiment, on their way to India. The ship was allowed after disinfection to proceed to the wharf, the troops being kept on board by a guard of their own number. The quarantined passengers were released on the 4th July.

The cruiser *Haiyung*, built at the Vulcan Works, Stettin, for the Chinese Government, arrived on 13th July, under the German flag, which she will continue to fly until handed over. The *Haiyung* is a twin-screw steel cruiser of 2,950 tons displacement, her length being 315 ft., beam 41 ft., and draught 16 ft. Her indicated horse power is 8,000 and her speed 19.5 knots. She has 2 in. armour in gun position and 3 in. on deck. Her armament consists of three 6 in. quick-firers, eight 4 in., six 1.4 in. Hotchkiss, and six machine guns. She has three torpedo tubes.

In our Canton notes from the *Chung Ngyoi San Po* a few days ago it was mentioned that a Chinese woman named Ma Yan-shi, who had been naturalised in the United States, had brought an action in the court of the Puna Magistrate against a Sansz named Chau Poi-yung for the recovery of the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, being money lent on a promissory note. At the first hearing the plaintiff was nonsuited, as she produced only a photograph of the promissory note, but was given leave to sue again if she could produce the original. This she has apparently done, as we hear she has obtained a judgment in her favour.

The master of the steam launch *Chun Fat* was charged at the Magistracy on 12th July with carrying 45 passengers in excess of the number allowed by his licence on Saturday last. P.C. Hammond said he was on duty in police pinnace No. 4 when he saw the launch come from the direction of Yamati. He hailed her and blew his whistle for her to stop, but she did not do so. She was then opposite the Praya Reclamation making for Gibb's Wharf. He ran alongside and got aboard. On counting the passengers he found there were 104 on board, whilst she was only licensed to carry 59, including the crew. A fine of \$90, or three months, was imposed.

The master of the German steamer *Della* was charged at the Magistracy on Saturday with using the steam whistle of his vessel for a purpose other than that of navigation. Inspector Kemp said that at about 6.40 that morning the *Della* came from the east and when rounding Kowloon Point blew her whistle eleven times extending over a period of ten minutes. She had a clear passage to the wharf. In answer to Mr. Looker, who appeared for defendant, witness admitted that it was customary to blow one or two blasts when off the wharves as a signal to the Godown Company's officers. Mr. E. Osborne, secretary of the Godown Company, said the same. Fined \$20.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th June, 1898, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.....	\$2,775,838	\$1,400,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,	6,176,267	3,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	448,824	150,000
Total	\$9,400,929	\$4,550,000

The British steamer *Lombard* arrived at Singapore on the 3rd July from Hongkong, having had to put into Labuan through stress of weather. She left Hongkong on the 17th June and fears had begun to be entertained for her safety.

We understand that Messrs. Lütgens, Einstmann & Co., General Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, have received confirmation by letter dated 14th June last of the wire of 7th June to the effect that the main reef in the Great Eastern Mine had been struck. They also learn that a trial crushing of two tons of quartz from the Bank of England and Zulu shafts had been made yielding 1 ounce 17 dwt. 18 grs. per ton.

A servant boy named Wong Shui Hing was charged at the Magistracy on Thursday, on the information of Mr. N. P. Nolan, interpreter, with using abusive language, whereby a breach of the peace might have been caused. Complainant said that on the 8th inst he engaged defendant as cook at \$8 a month. At noon on Wednesday defendant asked him for some money for food. He told him he had already given him 20 cents and he would pay him the rest at the end of the month, whereupon defendant said that if he did not pay him all his money for the work he had done he would charge him, subsequently becoming very abusive and making use of a very foul expression. A fine of \$10, or a month, was imposed.

At the Magistracy on the 8th July a German seaman named Gus Raymon was charged with stealing clothing belonging to Henry Perch and others from the Sailors' Home. Perch, a seaman out of employ, said he was staying at the Sailors' Home, where defendant was also staying. The light coat produced was his property, and was worth \$10. He last saw it on his bed under the pillow on Thursday morning. He missed it after dinner. Suspecting defendant, whom he had seen going out with a bundle, he went out to look for him. He met him returning in a ricksha. He followed him to the Home, where he charged him with the theft. Afterwards he went out with a constable and identified the coat in a shop, defendant being identified as having sold it. Two other seamen staying at the Sailors' Home had missed articles of clothing, and a Chinaman deposed to defendant having sold them to him. Defendant, who was arrested by P.C. McDonald, was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

Alexander Johnston, the chief engineer of the *Suisang*, appeared before Commander Hastings at the Magistracy on Thursday morning to answer a charge of "unlawfully driving a bicycle furiously to the danger of the public, thereby seriously injuring one Lu Kam." The Captain Superintendent of Police said that a little before seven o'clock on Wednesday evening he was riding a bicycle going westward along the Wanchai Road ascending the hill under Morrison Hill when defendant passed him on a bicycle. When defendant got over the brow of the hill he put his feet up and let the bicycle go. Defendant's hands were on the upright staff of the handle bar instead of on the grip. He kept in the centre of the road until he got to the foot of the hill. Then for some reason he swerved to the right, the wrong side of the road for him going west. Witness saw that there was a Chinese woman and a European child to the right of defendant, at an angle of about 45 degrees to the course he had altered from. They were sitting on the side channel with their backs to the road. Hearing the bicycle coming (witness did not hear the bell) the woman got up and tried to pull the child aside. Immediately afterwards the front wheel of the bicycle struck the woman on the back and knocked her face downwards into the side channel, the child being also knocked down. Defendant fell over the handle of his bicycle clear of the side channel. Defendant had three companions with him on bicycles. An exceedingly dangerous thing for defendant to do was putting up his feet going down the hill in that way, defendant thus losing control of the machine. The woman was sent to the hospital, where she was found to be suffering from an injury to the head. Dr. Noble attended the woman on the spot. Defendant was arrested. Defendant had no questions to ask witness and had nothing to say. He was fined £5.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sergeant George Danson, of the Shanghai Municipal Police, left Shanghai on the 3rd June to take charge of the police force which is being established at Weihaiwei by the British Government.

A courageous rescue from drowning took place at Singapore shortly after midnight on the 28th June. It seems, says the *Straits Times*, that a man named Mat, who is the chief chin-teng in connection with the revenue department of the Opium Farm, went out in a sampam to board the steamer *Siam*, which had arrived from Amoy. It was dark at the time, and Capt. Fraser, the master of the *Siam*, was standing at the head of the gangway. Mat was about to board the vessel when he saw the captain fall from the gangway into the water. Without hesitation, Mat dived from the sampan and rescued Captain Fraser, who was unconscious, but who was restored to life on the arrival of a doctor. Capt. Fraser, it is said, had not been in the best of health during the voyage and had suffered considerably with his head. Mat injured his clothing and lost a bag containing about three dollars, and several other articles.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 6th July says:—The river police recovered a body evidently that of a European from the Whangpoo yesterday and it was at once reported to the Coroner. Inspector Mellowes immediately forming the impression that it was the corpse of the unfortunate steward of the *Clan Mackenzie*, William Dorance, whose death whilst bathing at Pootung occurred on Sunday. Friends of the deceased from the ship, however, failed to identify the body, which was very much discoloured and swollen; consequently the Coroner decided to hold an inquest and an order for immediate burial was issued. The deceased was wearing a pair of drawers only, and we understand that Dorance was similarly clad on entering the water. In any case, however, it is distinctly sad to hear of the body of a foreigner laid to rest without ceremony or religious rite of any kind in an unknown grave.

The *Straits Times* says:—There have been great rejoicings in Sarawak, and the traders of the port of Limbang have saluted the Rajah by hanging red signs at their doors, and firing off as many crackers as they could get hold of. The reason of the outburst is that on May 28th, the Rajah of Sarawak suddenly arrested and deported to Rajang, in Sarawak, two chiefs known as Tadong and Emang, and a number of their followers. Tadong and Emang, it seems, are of the Mat Salleh ilk; and for deporting them the Sultan of Sarawak has earned the everlasting gratitude of the traders of the district, who had come to dread these men. Why cannot the Sandakan Government treat Mat Salleh, or "Mud Salay," as he should be styled, in a similar manner? There are a good many Singapore Chinese traders who would be ready to rejoice quite as heartily as the Limbang traders, for Mat Salleh has been responsible for the loss of a good quantity of their property in British North Borneo.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—A new and elaborate system for Chinese telegrams has been invented by a Cantonese gentleman named Whang. In the present system, as our readers probably know, the Chinese use four figures to represent each character, and as not more than three figures are allowed by the telegraph companies to pass as one word, every Chinese character transmitted has been charged as two words, which is naturally very costly. By the new code the 26 letters of the alphabet are introduced instead of figures and each column 26 characters. By this ingenious method A. B. C. would read, folio 1, line 2, character 3; and E. F. folio 2, line 5, character 6. At least that is how we understand the explanation which has been given us, and we are assured that the code if brought into force will effect a saving of two thirds the cost of all Chinese messages transmitted. It will not on the other hand affect the telegraph companies' receipts, as the number of messages sent will be doubled or trebled, as is always the case when a reduction of rates takes place. We believe our late viceroy, Wang Wen-shao, warmly approved of the code, and it will probably receive government sanction.

The polo games on the race course at Shanghai on Saturday afternoon, 2nd July, were marred, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, by a couple of accidents to players of a somewhat painful nature. Mr. Souter fell and his pony rolled over him severely injuring his foot and rendering his removal from the ground necessary. The other casualty was attended with rather more serious consequences. Mr. des Voeux was the victim and he was struck in the face over the eye, his glasses breaking and severely cutting him. He bled profusely and it was at first thought he had sustained an injury to the eye. Fortunately this proved not to be the case, though Mr. des Voeux suffered considerable pain.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	5,925,054	7,558,175
Foochow	4,251,546	4,731,743
Amoy	44,957	37,633
Canton	911,080	1,697,113
	11,132,646	14,074,711

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	2,212,406	2,256,825
Amoy	1,782,100	3,075,428
	3,994,506	5,332,253

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	9,418,012	11,716,105
Kobe	4,578,945	5,758,740
	13,996,957	17,474,845

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow....	15,891,680	14,229,694

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 9th July.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—Latest London advices report a firm market, and Blue Elephants 10/3. The quotation from Lyons for Gold Kilings is Fcs. 27. Raw Silk.—The past week has been somewhat quieter than the preceding ones, but a firm tendency prevails, and a fair amount of business has taken place.—Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 2nd to 8th July, are: 2,872 bales White, 75 bales Yellow, and 115 bales Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—Further large contracts have been made in Hand Filatures for America, and prices show an advance of Tls. 15/20, total settlements for this market we now estimate at fully 1,200 bales. A good demand have also existed for Hand Filatures for Lyons and holders have obtained an advance; the market closes very strong. We have not heard of any business in Steam Filatures. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 223 bales to America, 226 bales to the Continent, and 16 bales to England. Wild Silks.—Market quiet, little doing. Waste Silk.—Contracts have been made for New Season Frisonnets on the basis of the following:—

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	6,097	5,138
Canton	1,546	2,109
	7,643	7,337

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	414	878
Canton	382	360
	796	1,247

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 15th July.—The market has improved and prices are higher. Quotations for Formosa are \$42.00. to \$42.50. Sales, 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 15th July.—The market continues weak and prices show a further decline. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.31 to 7.34	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	7.10 to 7.13	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.80 to 4.82	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.70 to 4.74	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.22 to 7.25	"
do. " 2, White...	6.98 to 6.02	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.72 to 4.75	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.67 to 4.70	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.20 to 11.23	"
Shekloong	10.70 to 10.78	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per America str., *Armenia*, sailed on the 7th July. For Port Said:—5 boxes essential oil. For London:—22 cases bristles, 17 cases Chinaware, 10 cases soy, and 6,014 packages merchandise. For Hamburg:—2 cases tea, 4 cases feathers, 8 packages rattanware, 10 cases paper, 11 bales bambooware, 15 packages merchandise, 43 cases Chinaware, 43 cases fans, 70 cases bristles, 108 rolls matting, 110 cases cassia buds, 183 packages canes, and 500 bales broken cassia. For Antwerp:—1 package tea, and 10 packages canes. For Amsterdam:—3,381 packages merchandise. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—26 cases merchandise, and 45 bales feathers. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—90 cases bristles. For London and/or Antwerp and/or Hamburg and/or Bremen and/or New York:—314 bales feathers.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 15th July.—Bengal—There has been a brisk demand for this drug, and owing to small stock in first hands, and favourable advices from India, a steady improvement has taken place in prices, latest figures being \$720 for New Patna, \$700 for New Benares, \$757½ for Old Patna, and \$730 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—The market has ruled dull and transactions have been few and unimportant. Current quotations are as follows:—

Old (2½ yrs.) \$78½ with all'nce. of ¼ to 2½ cts
" (6/7 ") \$810 " " of ¼ to 2½ " "
" (9/10 ") \$340 " " of 1 to 2½ " "

Persian.—Business has been up to the average, quotations closing at \$430 to \$630 for Oily, and at \$510 to \$700 for Paper-wrapped drug.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	450	chests
Old Patna	160	"
New Benares	250	"
Old Benares	130	"
Malwa	230	"
Persian	350	"

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
July 9	708½	745	692½	730	—	—
July 10	708½	745	692½	730	—	—
July 11	710	745	695	730	—	—
July 12	715	750	695	730	—	—
July 13	720	752½	700	730	—	—
July 14	720	757½	700	730	—	—
July 15	720	757½	700	730	—	—

RICE.

HONGKONG 15th July.—A large demand has been experienced from Shanghai and the Northern provinces and prices are rather firmer. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.92 to 2.95
" Round, good quality	3.05 to 3.10
" Long	3.45 to 3.48
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	3.05 to 3.10
" Garden, " No. 1	3.60 to 3.64
" White	4.35 to 4.40
" Fine Cargo	4.72 to 4.75

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th July.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—70 bales No. 8 at \$76, 1,300 bales No. 10 at \$72 to \$91, 350 bales No. 12 at \$80 to \$86, 575 bales No. 16 at \$85 to \$91.75, 450 bales No. 20 at \$92 arrive to \$99. Japanese Yarn.—50 bales No. 10

at \$9.50 bales No. 20 at \$98. No. 22/24 Yarn.—150 bales E. and Y. Flower at \$110, 50 bales Green Lion and Cart at \$110. No. 40 Yarn.—25 bales Red Crest at \$128. T-Cloths.—1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mox Wind Wheel at \$2.32½, 375 pieces 7 lbs. B. Dog S. 10 at \$2.32½. Turkey Reds.—500 pieces 1½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.56, 4,000 pieces 1½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.56 arrive. Bengal Cotton.—100 bales at \$18.25, 100 bales at \$18. Drills.—7½ pieces 16 lbs. Blue Stamp at \$5.15. Black Lastings.—200 pieces J. M. at \$16.75. METALS.—Tin.—100 slabs Foong Chai at \$49.75. Lead.—1,680 pieces Australia at \$8.80 arrive. Tin Plates.—100 cases at \$6.05. Wire Nail Iron.—100 Kegs at \$5.05. COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s	68.00 to 101.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	108.00 to 114.00
" 22 to 24	110.00 to 116.00
" 28 to 32	121.00 to 125.00
" 38 to 42	130.00 to 136.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.75 to 1.85
7lbs.	2.00 to 2.10
8.4 lbs.	2.50 to 2.70
9 to 10 lbs	3.40 to 4.15
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.40 to 2.50
58 to 60 "	2.75 to 3.45
64 to 66 "	3.55 to 4.40
Fine	4.35 to 7.15
Book-folds	3.80 to 5.70
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.65 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.55 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 ")	1.90 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 ")	2.10 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.40 to 3.25
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14lbs	3.75 to 5.15

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs.	1.60 to 5.00
Brocades—Dyed	3.00 to 5.00
Damasks	0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted	3.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.20 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.17½ to 0.18½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90
WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.57½ to 1.40
German	1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.25 to 5.25
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.50 to 10.00
Assorted	6.60 to 10.00
Camlets—Assorted	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	10.00 to 21.00

Orleans—Plain 7.00 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. 3.50 to 14.00

METALS

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.00 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar	4.00 to —
Swedish Bar	5.75 to —
Small Round Rod	4.40 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	4.50 to —
Wire 15/25	8.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	1.50 to 3.00
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop	8.70 to —
Australian	8.70 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz.	32.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz.	31.00 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.	31.00 to —
Composition Nails	46.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	36.00 to —
Tiles	29.00 to —

Tin — to —
Tin-Plates — to —
Steel ½ to 1 — to —
SUNDRIES

	per picul
Quicksilver	145.00 to —
Window Glass	4.40 to —
Kerosene Oil	2.17 to —

SHANGHAI, 9th July.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—In spite of the intense heat that has prevailed throughout the week we have to report a little more activity in our market for Manchester goods. There seems to be a steady, but not altogether general demand for grey textiles, as it is restricted almost entirely to old, well known chops, new cloths being very difficult to move.

This would seem to show that buying is confined to goods for current requirements, all purchases of a speculative nature being avoided. This is no doubt on account of the conviction that there will be less tension in the markets all over the world so soon as the War now raging between the United States and Spain is ended, and, according to telegrams received this morning, negotiations with that object are already proceeding in the Capitals of the two countries concerned. At the same time a cessation of hostilities will most surely weaken Silver, and cause such a drop in Exchange that will counteract any decline that may take place in the home markets. With the Philippines and Cuba in other hands valuable markets, that have been almost closed by protection to the Manchester trade, will be re-opened no doubt. Advices from Newchwang are had again and consequently the anticipated buying for that market has not taken place. The Tientsin trade continues satisfactory, but the element of direct shipments from New York and Manchester threatens to make an important impression on our trade with that dependency. The facilities that the Foreign houses established there are giving to buyers must tell in the long run, if they can afford to keep them up. We are credibly informed that the system being introduced there at present is to give the buyer two months' credit, with liberty to take a part, or the whole of the goods as soon as he likes, without the payment of bargain money or anything until the date, when the whole amount has to be paid in full. This of course gives the buyer on those terms a tremendous pull over his neighbour who buys from this market, but it will be strange if this does not lead to serious complications if it is indulged in to any great extent. With Hankow and the Riverine markets generally a quiet but steady business is in progress, but Ningpo remains very dull. A notification has been published by the Imperial Maritime Customs announcing the opening of all internal waterways to steam navigation, but some of the conditions will have to be considerably modified before any use can be made of this concession. At the Auctions prices have been fairly well maintained, but clearances are indifferent, no doubt owing to the stringency in the money market, native interest, although only about 7½ per cent. at the close, has been very high during the interval.

METALS, 11th July.—(From Messrs. Alex Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—The principal business has been in goods offered at auction, only one home order being reported. Of auction goods, three or four times the amount actually sold was offered, but withdrawn because the price realised did not warrant the sacrifice. Until these auction prices more nearly approach the laid down cost, there is little hope for new business. The following has been done:—100 tons Boiler Tubes at 99. c.i.f.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 15th July.—A further rise in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, but a slightly weaker feeling in the market generally, are the chief features of the week under review.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—An unsatisfied demand for several fair lots gradually sent the market up to 205 per cent. prem., at which rate shares changed hands with few if any sales between that rate and 198 per cent. prem. At time of closing shares are still enquired for at the higher rate of 208 without bringing out sellers. Nationals are still offering at \$17 without sales or buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have again changed hands at \$62, which is all the business to report under this heading except a small sale of Unions at \$215.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas continue dull, with a small sale of the former at \$330.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled somewhat weaker with small sales at \$167 cash and at \$171 for August, closing with sellers at those rates. Luzons have been negotiated at \$37½ and \$38.

MINING.—Punjoms continue steady with small sales at \$5.50 and \$5.75. Olivers and Balmorals neglected; Jelebus have changed hands in small lots at \$3.80. Charbonnages continue on offer at quotation without business. Raubs remain very quiet with little or no business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are still neglected, but small sales have been effected at 250 per cent. prem. cash and 255 for August, sellers at 250 ruling the market at time of closing. Kow-

loon Wharves remain steady with buyers at \$60. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have ruled rather steadier with fair sales at \$25½ and \$25¼, closing in demand at latter rate. Indo-Chinas after further small sales at \$56½ close with sellers at that rate. Douglases have been enquired for and sales have been effected at \$58, more shares being wanted at the rate. China Manillas continue entirely out of the market. China Mutuals unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue dull and neglected at \$71 with small sales. Hotels have changed hands at \$51½ and more shares are wanted at the rate. West Points and Humphreys remain more or less out of the market.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Electrics have found buyers at \$3¼. Watsons at \$11¼, and Green Islands new issue at \$18¼. Other stocks under this heading have ruled neglected and without business at quotations.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		(\$385, buyers)
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	208 1/2 prem=
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$4	nominal
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$17, sellers
Founders Shares..	\$1	\$17, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9½, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$166½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 100, sellers
Hongkong	\$40	\$21
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 105
Laon Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 101
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 505
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Dairy Farm Co.	\$8	\$1½
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30½, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$30, sellers
Do. New Issue	\$1	\$18½, sales
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$125
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$8.25
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$107
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$110, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$6
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$160
H. & W. Dock	\$125	250 p. ct. prem.=
Insurance—		[\$437½, sales]
Canton	\$50	\$133, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$99, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$64, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$4½, sellers
Union	\$50	\$215, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$130, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$71, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17½, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$2½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$38, sales & sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce. 500	\$110, sellers
Great E. & C'donian	\$5	\$4.80, sales
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$3.30, buyers
Jelebu	\$5	\$3.00, sales
New Balmoral	\$1	40c., sellers
Do. Preference ...	\$1	50c., sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$12
Do. B.	\$2½	\$3.80, sales
Punjom	\$5	\$1.75, buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.60
Raub	14s. 10d.	\$35, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$4
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$80, sellers
China Mutual Ord...	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Do. Preference ...	\$10	\$5 10s.
Do. Do.	\$5	\$3
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$58, sales & buyers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$25½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$16, sellers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$8½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$1	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$40, ex div.
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$11.25, al. & buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 11th July.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—The increasing tightness of money has had a tendency to restrict business, and operators were more inclined to buy shares on time than for cash. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The prospects of a successful result from the negotiations for peace between Spain and the United States, and the early payment of a dividend, have caused a stronger demand for this stock, and cash shares have been placed at 201 to 203 per cent. premium. Shares were sold to Hongkong at 198 per cent. premium, equal to 203 per cent with exchange 73, and more are wanted. Shares were also sold for October delivery at 209 and 210 per cent. premium. Marine Insurance.—Business has been confined to a sale of China Trader's Insurance shares at \$65. Hongkong quotes sales of Cantons at \$138. Straits Insurance shares are offering at \$10, with transfer guaranteed. Fire Insurance.—Chinas were placed at \$100 and there are buyers at the same price. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were placed for delivery on the 31st current at Tls. 47, and there are buyers for the same date at Tls. 46.50. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares were sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 72.50. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are offering at Tls. 40. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai Engineering Dock shares were placed at Tls. 82. Several lots of Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 120. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 86, cum the interim dividend of 4.50 per cent., payable on the 18th current, and there are sellers at the same rate. Industrial.—The Shanghai Gas Co. will pay an interim dividend of 6 per cent on the 16th current. Cotton Mill shares are depressed. Internationals were placed for November at Tls. 110, and are wanted on the same terms. E-Wos are offering at Tls. 99. Lion-Kung-Mow at Tls. 101. Soy Chees at Tls. 505, and Yah Loongs at Tls. 70. China Flour Mill shares were placed at Tls. 55, to a fair extent. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were placed at Tls. 205, and Co-operative Cargo Boat shares at Tls. 150, at which they are offering. The Taku Tug and Lighter Co. have sold the Sultan at £18,500, which will give the Co. a good profit, but shares are offering at T. Tls. 75. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold, and are offering, at Tls. 79 cash and Tls. 84 for 30th November. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 205 cash and Tls. 215 for the 31st current. Hall & Holtz shares changed hands at \$38.50, and are wanted. Loans.—The following Debentures changed hands plus the accrued interest as usual:—Shanghai Land 5.50 per cent. at Tls. 96, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent at Tls. 102, and Shanghai Gas 5 per cent at Tls. 90.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$378.75.
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—£5.5.0
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.75.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 99.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—22.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 105.00.
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 101.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 505.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & C.

Royd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$60.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$461.87.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 177.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 82.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 120.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$137.50.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$100.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$65.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$340.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 182.50.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$10.00.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$222½.
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$130.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$72½.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8½.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. \$6.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.50.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.80.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$87.
Sueridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.50.

SHIPPING.

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.50.

Do. ordinary, £5 paid.—Tls. 26.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 150.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$59.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$26.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 48.0.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 205.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$170.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$12.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 90.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 55.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$38.50.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$61.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 500.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 217.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 68.0.
Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 112.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 205.00.

Do. New Issue.—Nominal.

Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 79.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 101.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$11.50.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 15th July.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.42
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.46

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1.95½

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 46½
Credits, 60 days' sight 47½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 144½
Bank, on demand 145

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 144½
Bank, on demand 145

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 74½
Private, 30 days' sight 75½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 5½ % pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand nom.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand par.

SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.28
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 54.75

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 9th July (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Our homeward freight market during the past fortnight has remained in much the same state as when last writing on the 27th ult., with the exception that for New York the vessel now loading is making 30s per ton, with very little cargo forthcoming at this rate. Other owners are offering 25s. for slightly later shipment, and shippers prefer to play the waiting game and to keep back their cargo for the 5s. difference, a consideration in these dull times. For London there has been no change in rates, and quite sufficient tonnage for the quantity of cargo going forward. Coastwise.—We have nothing of interest to report, and there seems to be a general lull in this line of shipping. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s. waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Con-

ference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 35s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 35s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 20s. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 25s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 25s. for tea. Boston, 32s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 35s. for tea. Philadelphia, 32s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 35s. for tea. Cost rates.—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton coal, nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton coal, nominal; Newchwang to Kobe little doing; Newchwang to Swatow little doing; Newchwang to Canton little doing; Wuhu to Canton closed.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Shanghai (str.), Bengloe (str.), Moyune (str.), Maragon (str.), Hector (str.), Hakata Maru (str.), Ballarat (str.), Pakling (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).

For MARSEILLE.—Jaledonien (str.), Hakata Maru (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—Belgie (str.), Hawthornbank (str.), Glenfarg (str.), Duchess Anne (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).

For VICTORIA, B. C.—Braemar (str.), Victoria (str.).

For TACOMA.—Victoria (str.).

For SEATTLE.—Riojun Maru (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Fortuna (str.), Indrapura (str.), Pathan (str.), Benmohr (str.), Prince Arthur (str.).

For HAVRE and HAMBURG.—Irene (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

July—

ARRIVALS.

9, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
9, Della, German str., from Foochow.
9, Crown of Germany, Brit. sh., from Manila.
9, Senta, German str., from Kobe.
9, Valle of Doon, British bark, from Callao.
10, Activ, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
10, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
10, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
10, Clara, German str., from Aparri.
10, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
10, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
10, Kalgan, British str., from Tientsin.
10, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
10, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
10, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Foochow.
10, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
10, Unity, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
10, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Yokohama.
10, Arabia, German str., from Hamburg.
10, Nanchang, British str., from Iloilo.
11, Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
11, Kwongsang, British str., from Amoy.
11, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
11, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
11, Argyll, British str., from Portland.
11, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
11, Priam, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Tosa Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
12, Dean, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Sullberg, German str., from Chefoo.
12, Empress of Japan, British str., from Vancouver.
12, Kaohidate Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
12, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
12, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
12, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Prometheus, British str., from Liverpool.

12, Naniwa, Jap. cruiser, from Pescadores.
12, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Elise, German str., from Bangkok.
12, Victoria, British str., from Tacoma.
12, Harma, Norwegian str., from Canton.
12, Independent, German str., from Kobe.
12, Plover, British gunboat, from Manila.
13, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
13, Haiyung, Chinese cruiser, from Stettin.
13, Nanyang, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
13, Australian, British str., from Melbourne.
13, Foyle, British str., from Bangkok.
14, Martha, German str., from Iloilo.
14, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., from Trieste.
14, Ragnar, Norwegian str., from Hamburg.
14, Ariel, Norwegian str., from Tientsin.
14, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
14, Movuna, British str., from Foochow.
14, Talisman, Norwegian str., from Moji.
14, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
14, Astrid, Norwegian str., from Moji.
14, Hupeh, British str., from Iloilo.
15, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
15, Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
15, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
15, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Mororan.
15, Caladonien, French str., from Shanghai.
15, Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
15, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
15, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
15, Kashing, British str., from Swatow.
15, Haiyung, German cruiser, for Shanghai.

July—

DEPARTURES.

9, Fooksang, British str., for Cebu.
9, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
9, St. Ninian, British str., for Singapore.
9, Verona, British str., for Europe, &c.
9, Jason, British str., for Amoy.
9, Yuensang, British str., for Cebu.
9, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
9, Progress, German str., for Chefoo.
9, Rio, German str., for Saigon.
9, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
10, Chowfa, British str., for Hoihow.
10, Benvenue, British str., for Hongay.
10, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
10, Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
10, Siegfried, German str., for Kobe.
10, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
10, Ragnild, Danish bark, for Jalint.
11, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.
11, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
11, Unity, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
11, Wan Tai, Chinese g-bt., for Hoihow.
12, Hansa, German str., for Saigon.
12, Hailan, French str., for Haiphong.
12, Kwongsang, British str., for Iloilo.
12, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
12, Kwanon Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
12, Miike Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
12, Mongkut, British str., for Saigon.
12, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
12, Priam, British str., for London.
12, Taisang, British str., for Cebu.
12, Vindobona, Aust. str., for Singapore.
12, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
12, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
12, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
12, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
12, Etha Rickmers, Ger. ship, for Singapore.
12, Richard Rickmers, Ger. bk., for Singapore.
13, Hermes, Norwegian steamer, for Iloilo.
13, Sultan van Langkat, Dutch str., for Moji.
13, Della, German steamer, for Hamburg.
13, Bellerophon, British steamer, for Amoy.
13, Ask, Danish str., for Quinhon.
13, Bormida, Italian str., for Singapore.
13, Kweiyang, British str., for Weihaiwei.
14, Naniwa, Japanese cruiser, for Manila.
14, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.
14, Dencaion, British str., for Sandakan.
14, Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Kong Beng, British str., for Swatow.
14, Prometheus, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
14, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
14, Rose, British bark, for Victoria.
15, Queen Mary, British str., for Sourabaya.
15, Arabia, German str., for Shanghai.
15, Marian Woodside, Brit. bk., for Nagasaki.
15, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
15, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
15, Glenearn, British str., for Kobe.
15, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
15, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
15, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.
15, Ragnar, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Verona*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Rev. F. M. Fernandes, Messrs. C. Crane, Koo Chit Foo, L. Weinberg and McCollen; for Colombo, Mrs. Werner; for Brindisi, Mr. H. Hellier; for London, Mr. R. J. G. Tangye.

Per *Peiyang*, from Shanghai, Capt. Rasmusen.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mr. A. K. Rhodin.

Per *Hailan*, from Pakhoi, &c., Mr. Johnson.

Per *Vindobona*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Foster.

Per *Changsha*, from Sydney, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Sidebottom, and Mr. F. Hazell.

Per *Meefoo*, from Shanghai, Mr. Patterson.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Yokohama, Mr. J. Farquhar, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Loxley, Misses Loxley (3), Mr. and Mrs. Meier and 2 children, Mr. Ellis Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bell-Irving; from Kobe, Mr. O. J. Ellis, Mrs. Sanford, Miss Sanford; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Guedes, Miss B. Silva Netto, Mr. Woo Chi Wan, Dr. N. J. Blackwood, Mr. C. P. Karberg, Mrs. A. R. Fullerton, and Master G. V. Queloh.

Per *Tosa Maru*, from Singapore, Rev. and Mrs. Iliff, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Mrs. and Master Wakeham and Mr. Moldrich.

Per *Elise*, from Bangkok, Dr. Scaparoni.

Per *Chowtai*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. Lyle.

Per *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Mrs. Truebridge and child.

Per *Nanyang*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Mr. Winterburn.

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Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Mr. Andersen.

DEPARTED.

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Per *Fooksang*, for Cebu, Mr. A. J. Richardson.

Per *Matsuyama Maru*, from Hongkong for Yokohama, Mr. E. A. Courtenay; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Nam, Messrs. Yung Ah So and K. A. Chune; from Bombay for Yokohama, Mr. Clerke.

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Per *Peiyang*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Breitenfeld and A. Brammer.

Per *Haitan*, for Coast Ports, Mr. Vizerier, Revs. L. Asemco, E. Samanigo and A. Canal.

Per *Taisang*, for Cebu, Mr. W. S. McLeod.

Per *Kweiyang*, for Weihaiwei, Colonel Lewis, Major Penrose, Captain Harrison, 7 non-commissioned Officers and 1 Sapper.

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